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POWER PACHYDERMS
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BAUMGARTNER & D'AGOSTINO

Stan Lee Presents...

POWER PACHYDERMS

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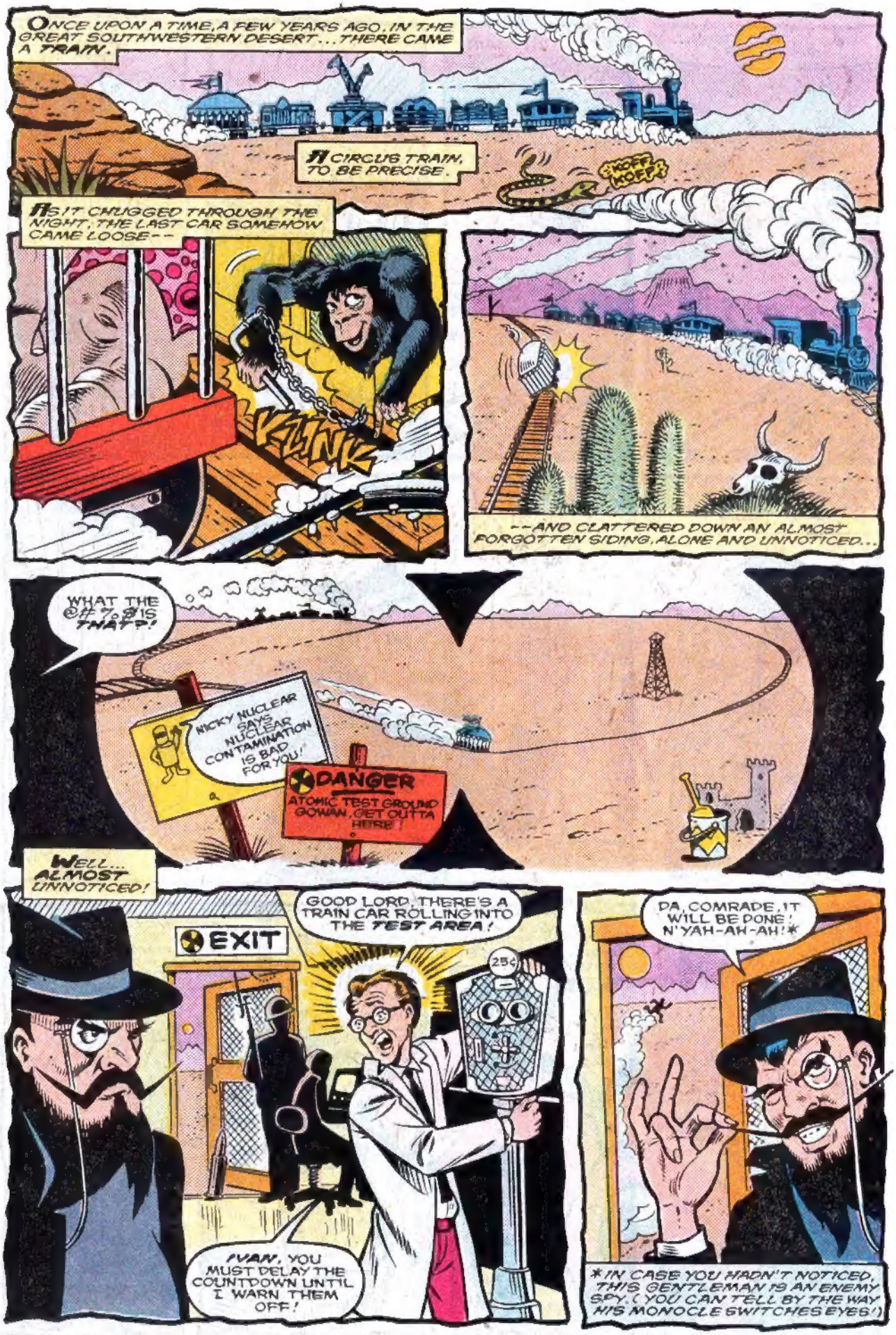
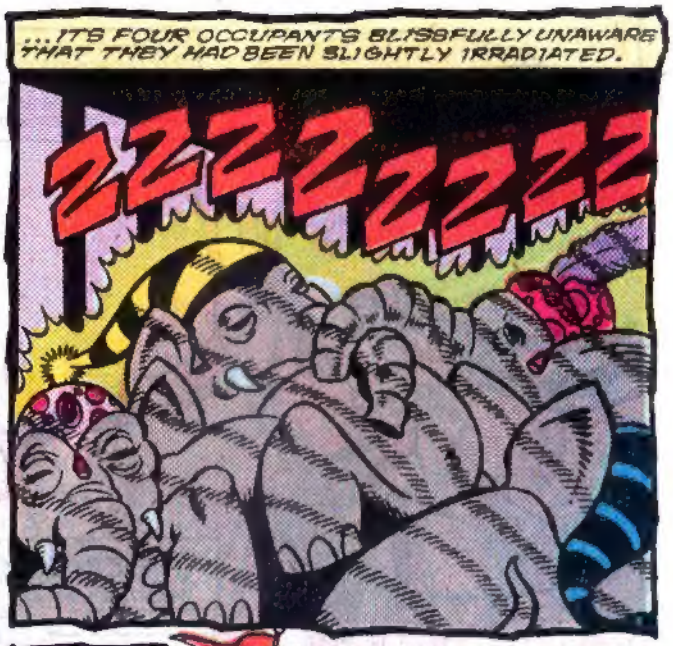
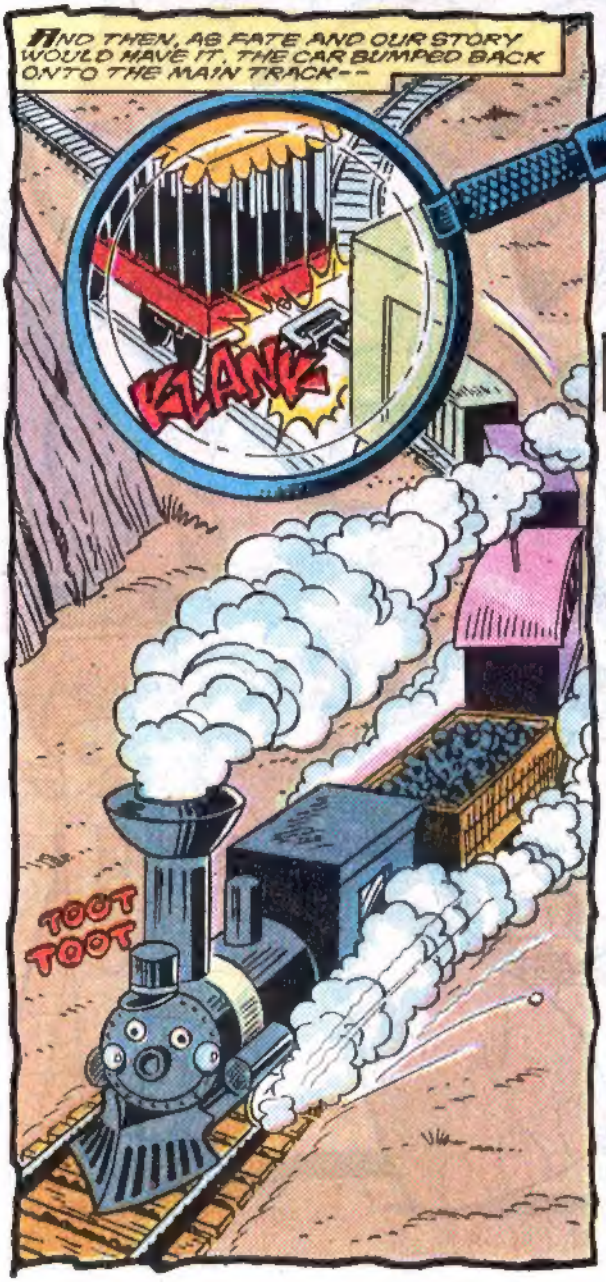
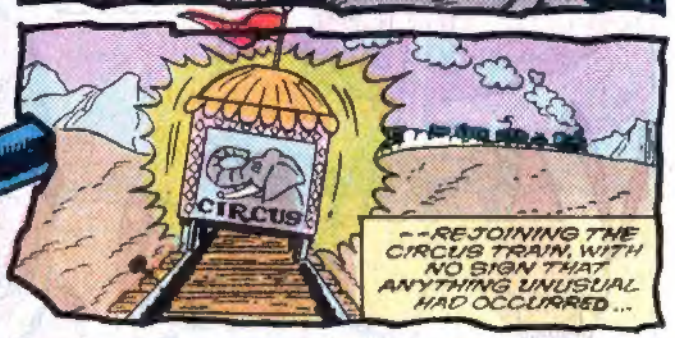

ONCE UPON A TIME, A FEW YEARS AGO, IN THE GREAT SOUTHWESTERN DESERT... THERE CAME A TRAIN.
A CIRCUS TRAIN, TO BE PRECISE.
KHOFF KHOFF
AS IT CHUGGED THROUGH THE NIGHT, THE LAST CAR SOMEHOW CAME LOOSE--
KLINK
--AND CLATTERED DOWN AN ALMOST FORGOTTEN SIDING, ALONE AND UNNOTICED...
WHAT THE @#?&$ IS THAT?!
NICKY NUCLEAR SAYS NUCLEAR CONTAMINATION IS BAD FOR YOU!
DANGER
ATOMIC TEST GROUND GOWAN, GET OUTTA HERE!
WELL... ALMOST UNNOTICED!
EXIT
GOOD LORD, THERE'S A TRAIN CAR ROLLING INTO THE TEST AREA!
25¢
IVAN, YOU MUST DELAY THE COUNTDOWN UNTIL I WARN THEM OFF!
DA, COMRADE, IT WILL BE DONE! N'YAH-AH-AH!*
*IN CASE YOU HADN'T NOTICED, THIS GENTLEMAN IS AN ENEMY SPY. (YOU CAN TELL BY THE WAY HIS MONOCLE SWITCHES EYES!)

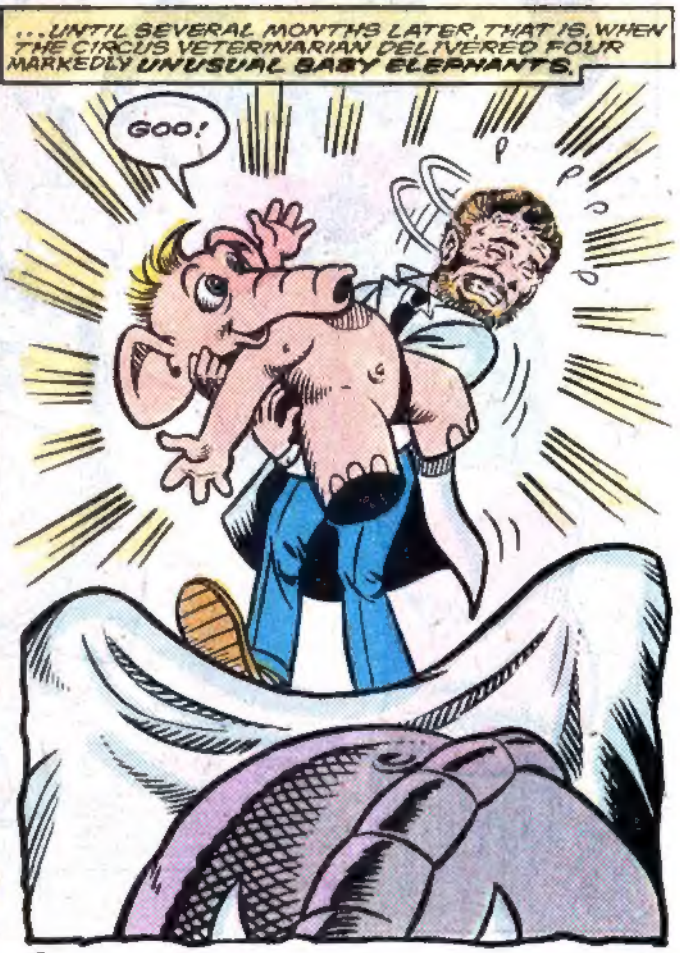
YOU...IN THE TRAIN... BACK UP!
GO AWAY!
SHOO!
VAMOOSE!
UH, TRAIN?
KLACKETTY KLACKETTY
ALL RIGHT...HAVE IT YOUR WAY...KEEP GOING!
PANT! PANT!
MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE BUNKER...
NOW THEN, YOU SAID YOUR CARD WAS A CLUB?
YEAH, THE THREE...
...TWO... ONE... ZERO!
BOOM
ALTHOUGH MILES FROM BOMB ZERO, THE SCIENTIST WAS BATHED IN THE FULL FORCE OF THE MYSTERIOUS GAMMA RAYS...
FOOM
...AND INSTANTLY REDUCED TO SOMETHING RESEMBLING ROAST PORK!
SO MUCH FOR HIM!

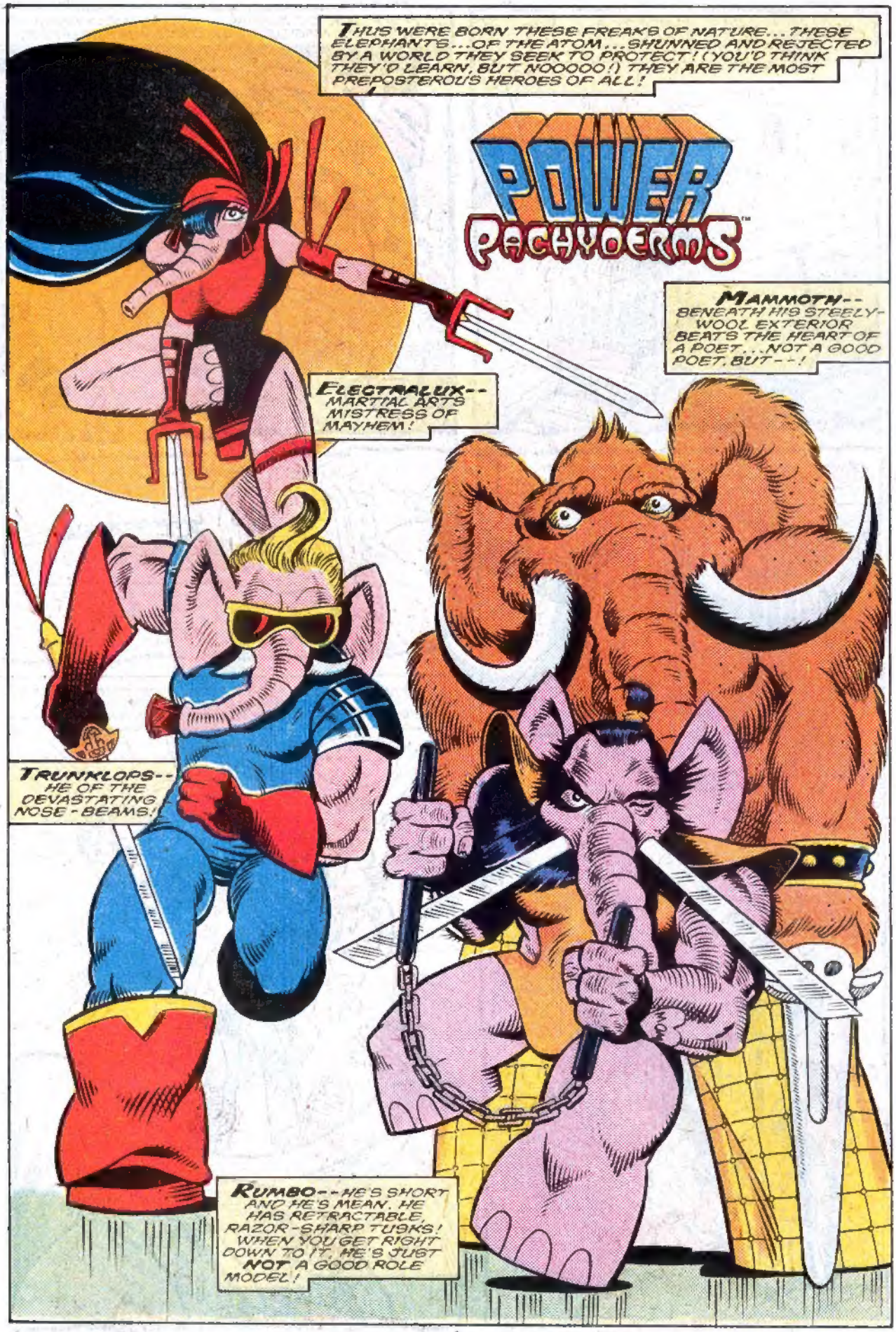
THE TRAIN CAR, ALREADY A CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE AWAY, TRUNDLED ON INTO THE NIGHT...
YOU ARE NOW LEAVING THE DANGER ZONE HAVE A NICE DAY!

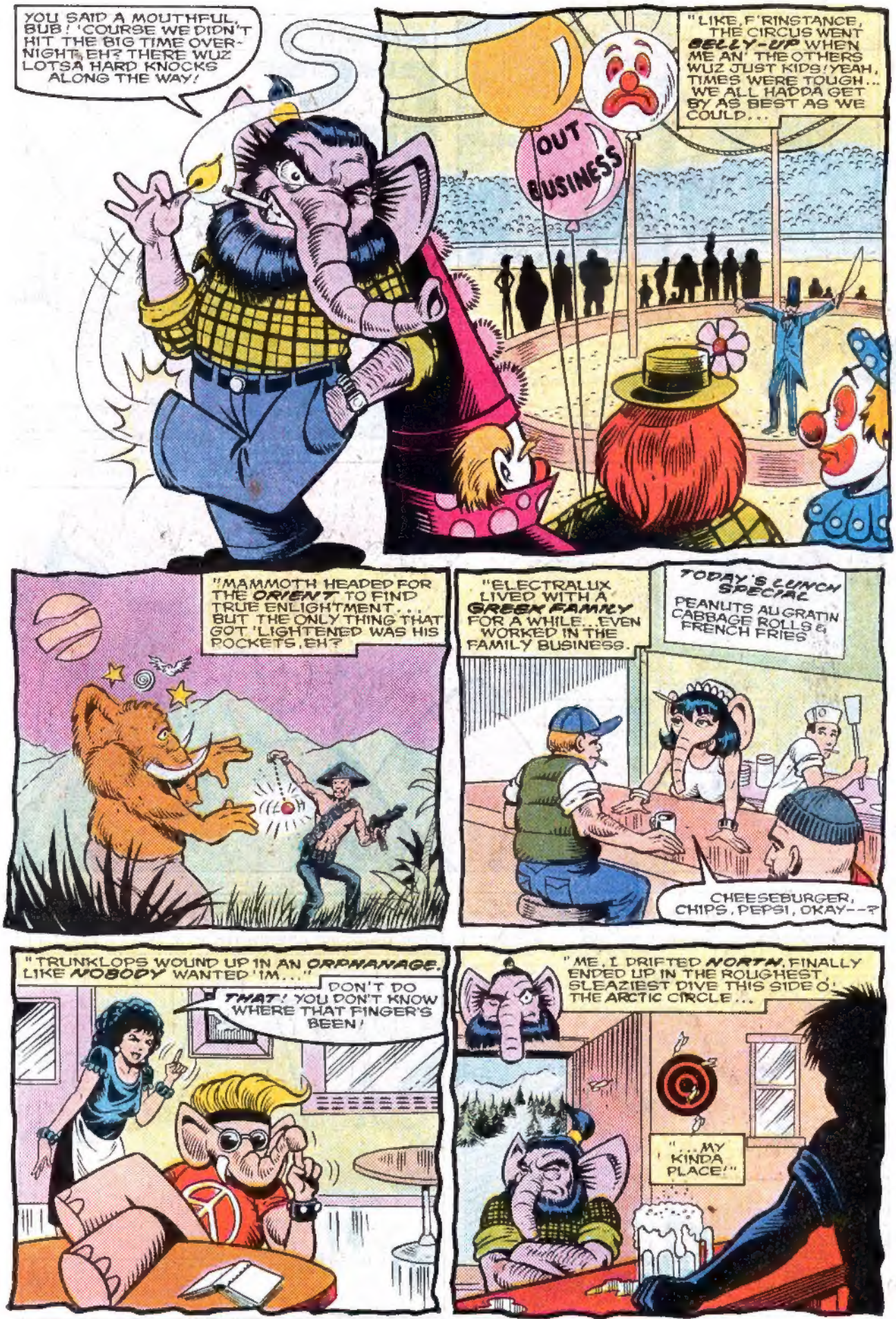

...IT'S FOUR OCCUPANTS BLISSFULLY UNAWARE THAT THEY HAD BEEN SLIGHTLY IRRADIATED.
ZZZZZZZZ

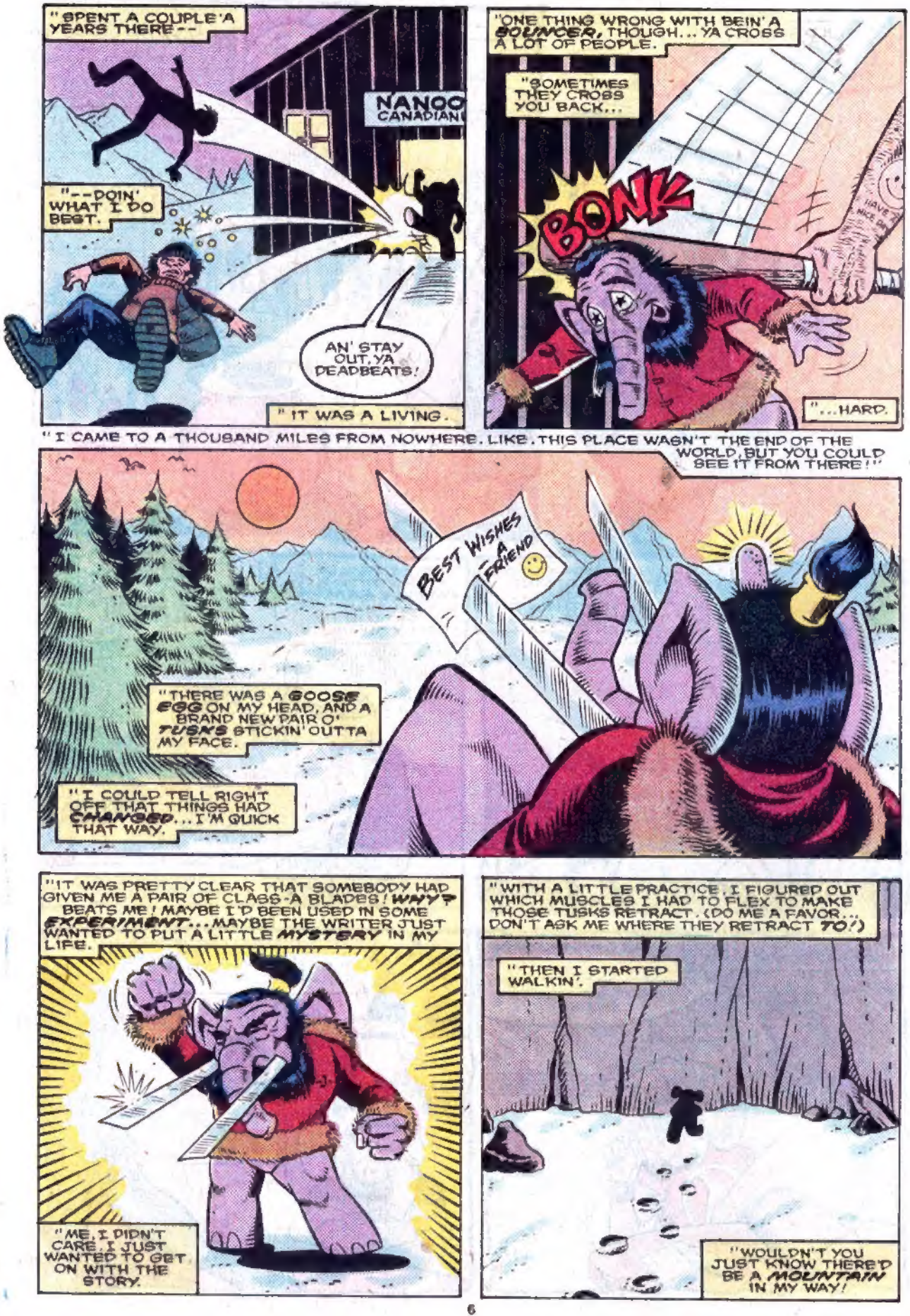

AND THEN, AS FATE AND OUR STORY WOULD HAVE IT, THE CAR BUMPED BACK ONTO THE MAIN TRACK--
KLANK
TOOT TOOT

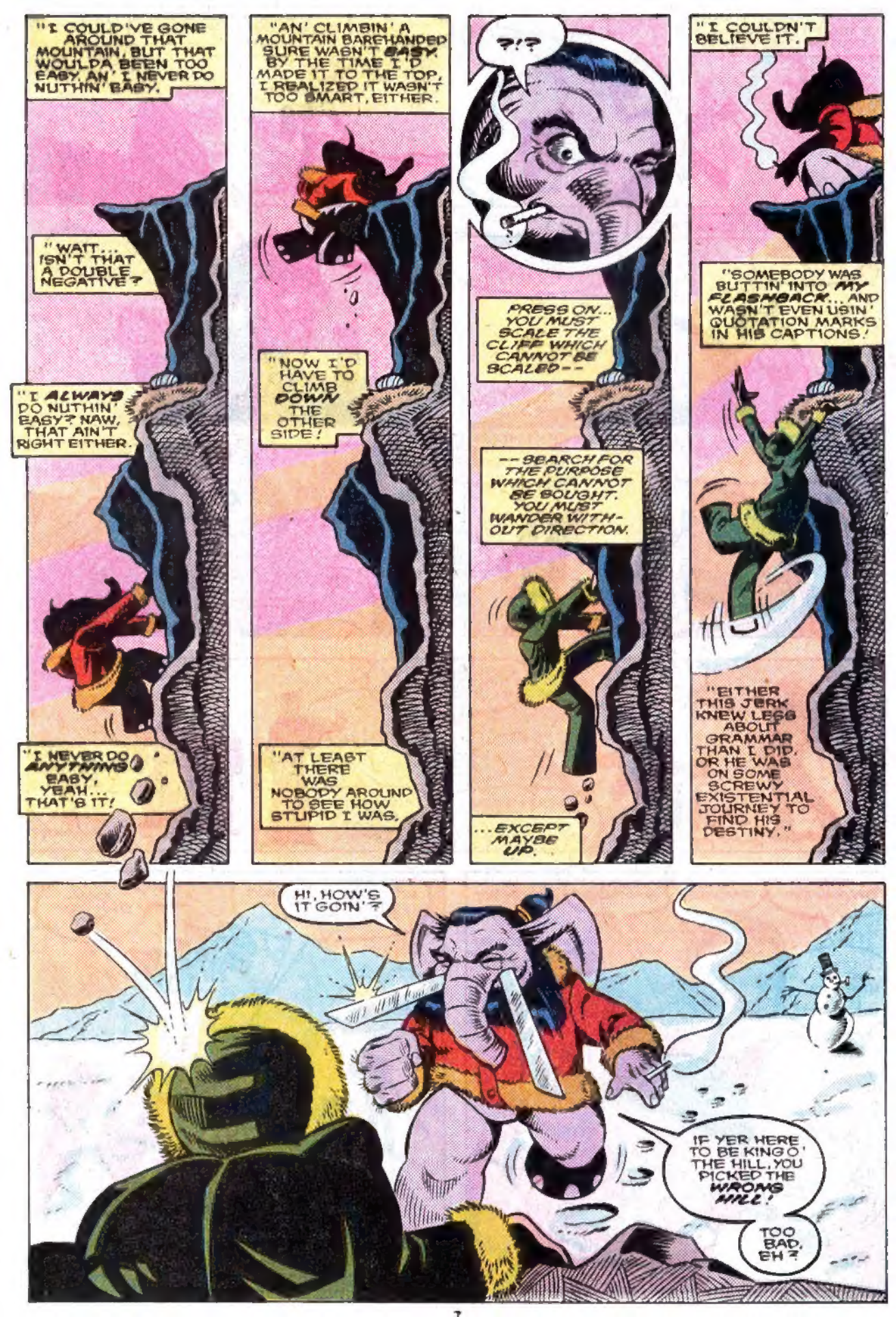

CIRCUS
--REJOINING THE CIRCUS TRAIN, WITH NO SIGN THAT ANYTHING UNUSUAL HAD OCCURRED...


...UNTIL SEVERAL MONTHS LATER, THAT IS, WHEN THE CIRCUS VETERINARIAN DELIVERED FOUR MARKEDLY UNUSUAL BABY ELEPHANTS.
GOO!


THUS WERE BORN THESE FREAKS OF NATURE... THESE ELEPHANTS...OF THE ATOM... SHUNNED AND REJECTED BY A WORLD THEY SEEK TO PROTECT! (YOU'D THINK THEY'D LEARN, BUT NOOOOO!) THEY ARE THE MOST PREPOSTEROUS HEROES OF ALL!
POWER PACHYDERMS
MAMMOTH-- BENEATH HIS STEELY-WOOL EXTERIOR BEATS THE HEART OF A POET...NOT A GOOD POET, BUT--!
ELECTRALUX-- MARTIAL ARTS MISTRESS OF MAYHEM!
TRUNKLOPS-- HE OF THE DEVASTATING NOSE-BEAMS!
RUMBO--HE'S SHORT AND HE'S MEAN. HE HAS RETRACTABLE, RAZOR-SHARP TUSKS! WHEN YOU GET RIGHT DOWN TO IT, HE'S JUST NOT A GOOD ROLE MODEL!

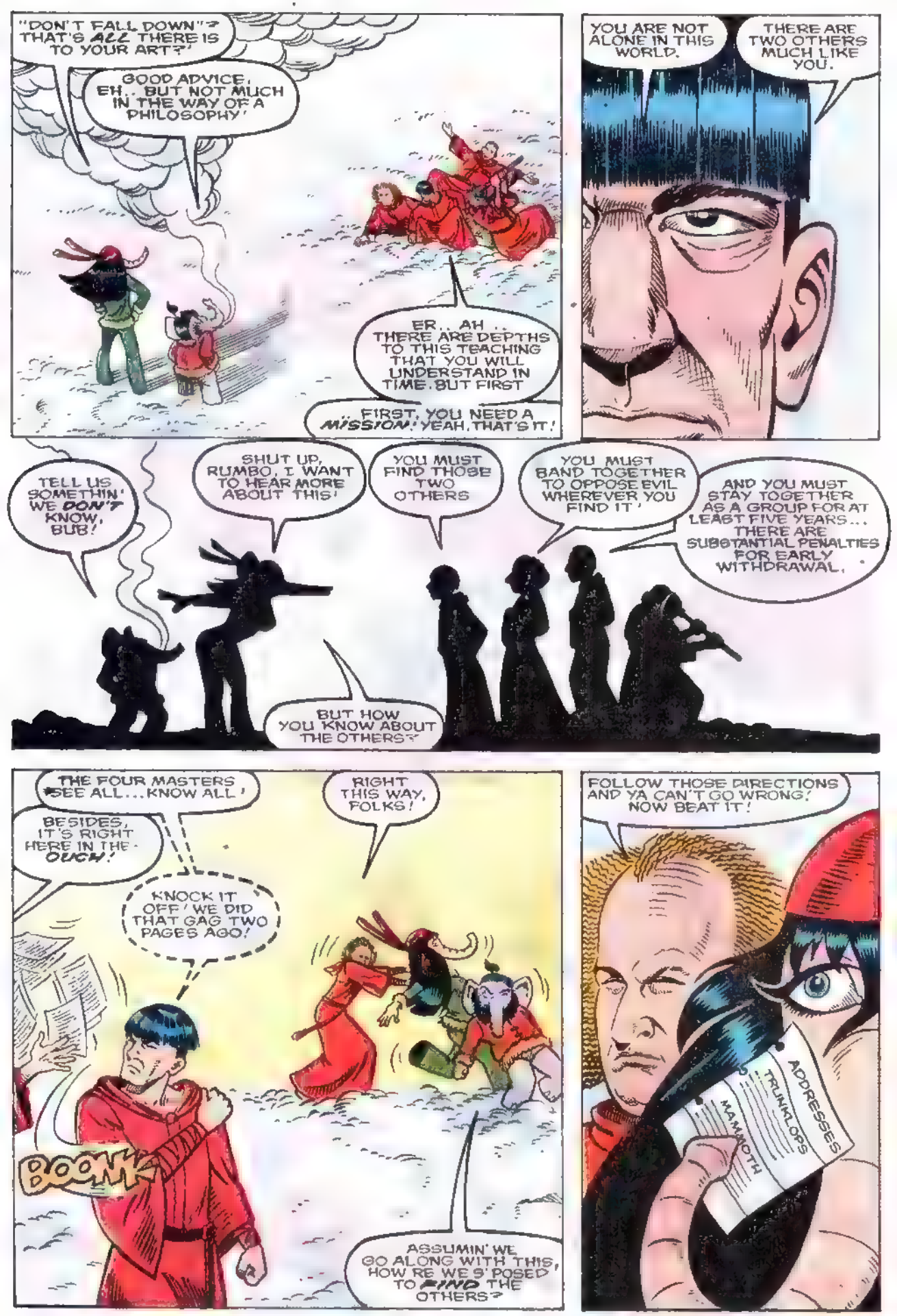

YOU SAID A MOUTHFUL, BUB! 'COURSE WE DIDN'T HIT THE BIG TIME OVER-NIGHT, EH? THERE WUZ LOTSA HARD KNOCKS ALONG THE WAY!
"LIKE, F'RINSTANCE, THE CIRCUS WENT BELLY-UP WHEN ME AN' THE OTHERS WUZ JUST KIDS! YEAH, TIMES WERE TOUGH... WE ALL HADDA GET BY AS BEST AS WE COULD...
OUT BUSINESS
"MAMMOTH HEADED FOR THE ORIENT TO FIND TRUE ENLIGHTMENT... BUT THE ONLY THING THAT GOT 'LIGHTENED WAS HIS POCKETS, EH?
"ELECTRALUX LIVED WITH A GREEK FAMILY FOR A WHILE...EVEN WORKED IN THE FAMILY BUSINESS.
TODAY'S LUNCH SPECIAL
PEANUTS AU GRATIN
CABBAGE ROLLS &
FRENCH FRIES
CHEESEBURGER, CHIPS, PEPSI, OKAY--?
"TRUNKLOPS WOUND UP IN AN ORPHANAGE. LIKE NOBODY WANTED 'IM..."
DON'T DO THAT! YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE THAT FINGER'S BEEN!
"ME, I DRIFTED NORTH, FINALLY ENDED UP IN THE ROUGHEST, SLEAZIEST DIVE THIS SIDE O' THE ARCTIC CIRCLE...
"...MY KINDA PLACE!"


"SPENT A COUPLE'A YEARS THERE--
NANOO CANADIAN
"--DOIN' WHAT I DO BEST.
AN' STAY OUT, YA DEADBEATS!
" IT WAS A LIVING.
"ONE THING WRONG WITH BEIN' A BOUNCER, THOUGH... YA CROSS A LOT OF PEOPLE.
"SOMETIMES THEY CROSS YOU BACK...
BONK
"...HARD.
" I CAME TO A THOUSAND MILES FROM NOWHERE. LIKE. THIS PLACE WASN'T THE END OF THE WORLD, BUT YOU COULD SEE IT FROM THERE!"
BEST WISHES - A FRIEND
"THERE WAS A GOOSE EGG ON MY HEAD, AND A BRAND NEW PAIR O' TUSKS STICKIN' OUTTA MY FACE.
"I COULD TELL RIGHT OFF THAT THINGS HAD CHANGED... I'M QUICK THAT WAY.
"IT WAS PRETTY CLEAR THAT SOMEBODY HAD GIVEN ME A PAIR OF CLASS-A BLADES! WHY? BEATS ME! MAYBE I'D BEEN USED IN SOME EXPERIMENT... MAYBE THE WRITER JUST WANTED TO PUT A LITTLE MYSTERY IN MY LIFE.
"ME, I DIDN'T CARE. I JUST WANTED TO GET ON WITH THE STORY.
"WITH A LITTLE PRACTICE, I FIGURED OUT WHICH MUSCLES I HAD TO FLEX TO MAKE THOSE TUSKS RETRACT. (DO ME A FAVOR... DON'T ASK ME WHERE THEY RETRACT TO!)
"THEN I STARTED WALKIN'.
"WOULDN'T YOU JUST KNOW THERE'D BE A MOUNTAIN IN MY WAY!

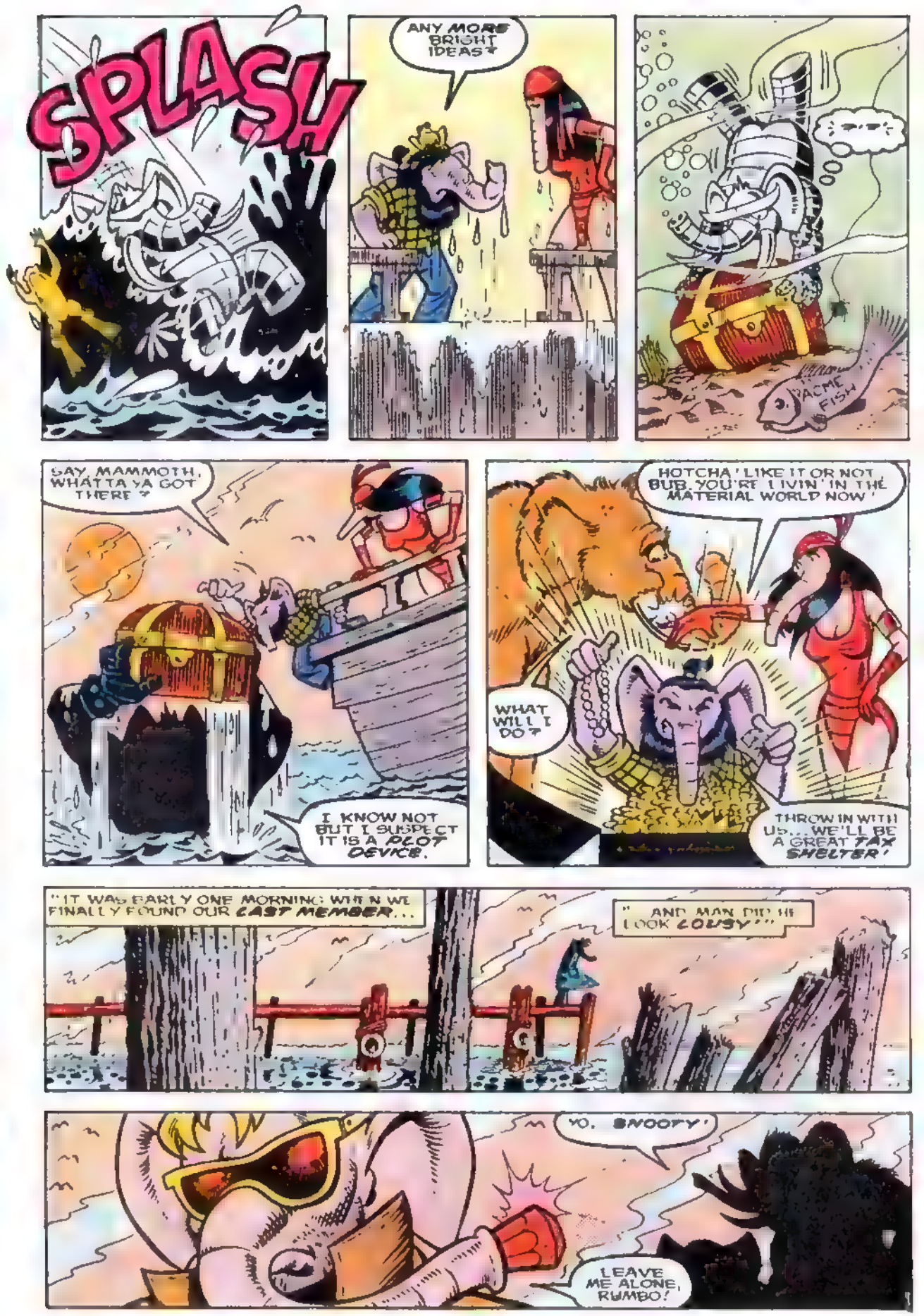

"I COULD'VE GONE AROUND THAT MOUNTAIN, BUT THAT WOULDA BEEN TOO EABY. AN' I NEVER DO NUTHIN' BABY.
"WAIT... ISN'T THAT A DOUBLE NEGATIVE?
"I ALWAYS DO NUTHIN' EASY? NAW, THAT AIN'T RIGHT EITHER.
"I NEVER DO ANYTHING BABY, YEAH... THAT'S IT!
"AN' CLIMBIN' A MOUNTAIN BAREHANDED SURE WASN'T EASY. BY THE TIME I'D MADE IT TO THE TOP, I REALIZED IT WASN'T TOO SMART, EITHER.
"NOW I'D HAVE TO CLIMB DOWN THE OTHER SIDE!
"AT LEAST THERE WAS NOBODY AROUND TO SEE HOW STUPID I WAS.
?!?
PRESS ON... YOU MUST SCALE THE CLIFF WHICH CANNOT BE SCALED--
--SEARCH FOR THE PURPOSE WHICH CANNOT BE BOUGHT. YOU MUST WANDER WITHOUT DIRECTION.
...EXCEPT MAYBE UP.
"I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT.
"SOMEBODY WAS BUTTIN' INTO MY FLASHBACK... AND WASN'T EVEN USIN' QUOTATION MARKS IN HIS CAPTIONS!
"EITHER THIS JERK KNEW LESS ABOUT GRAMMAR THAN I DID, OR HE WAS ON SOME SCREWY EXISTENTIAL JOURNEY TO FIND HIS DESTINY."
HI, HOW'S IT GOIN'?
IF YER HERE TO BE KING O' THE HILL, YOU PICKED THE WROMG HILL!
TOO BAD, EH?

"NEXT THING I KNEW, I WAS THE ONE AT THE EDGE OF THE CLIFF.
"I REMEMBER WISHIN' THAT I COULD FIND A DAME WITH THAT MUCH GRACE.
THIS WAY TO SANTA'S TOY SHOP
"THAT'S WHEN IT HIT ME!"
YOU ARE A DAME.
RUMBO?
ELEKTRALUX... BEEN A LONG TIME, BABE.
YES IT HAS.
YOU'VE CHANGED.
NOT THAT MUCH. I CLIMBED THE MOUNTAIN 'CAUSE IT WAS IN MY WAY.
I SEEK ENLIGHTMENT FROM THE FOUR PERFECT MASTERS.
THE FOUR WHAT?!
PERFECT MASTERS, RUNT-O.
THAT'S RUMBO, YA @#%&--!
PEACE, KIDDO! WE'VE BEEN EXPECTIN' YA.
YOU KNEW I WAS COMIN'? I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW--!
PLEASE... WE ARE THE PERFECT MASTERS.
LAST CHANCE GAS
I'M SHDRITZ!
I'M SHLEP!
I'M SHMOE!
I'M SHTICK! YOUR COMING WAS FORETOLD!
IT'S RIGHT HERE IN THE SCRIPT!
SCRIPT
SHADDAP YOU--! WHAT'RE YA GIVING AWAY ALL OUR SECRETS FOR?
SMACK
OW-OW-OW-OW!

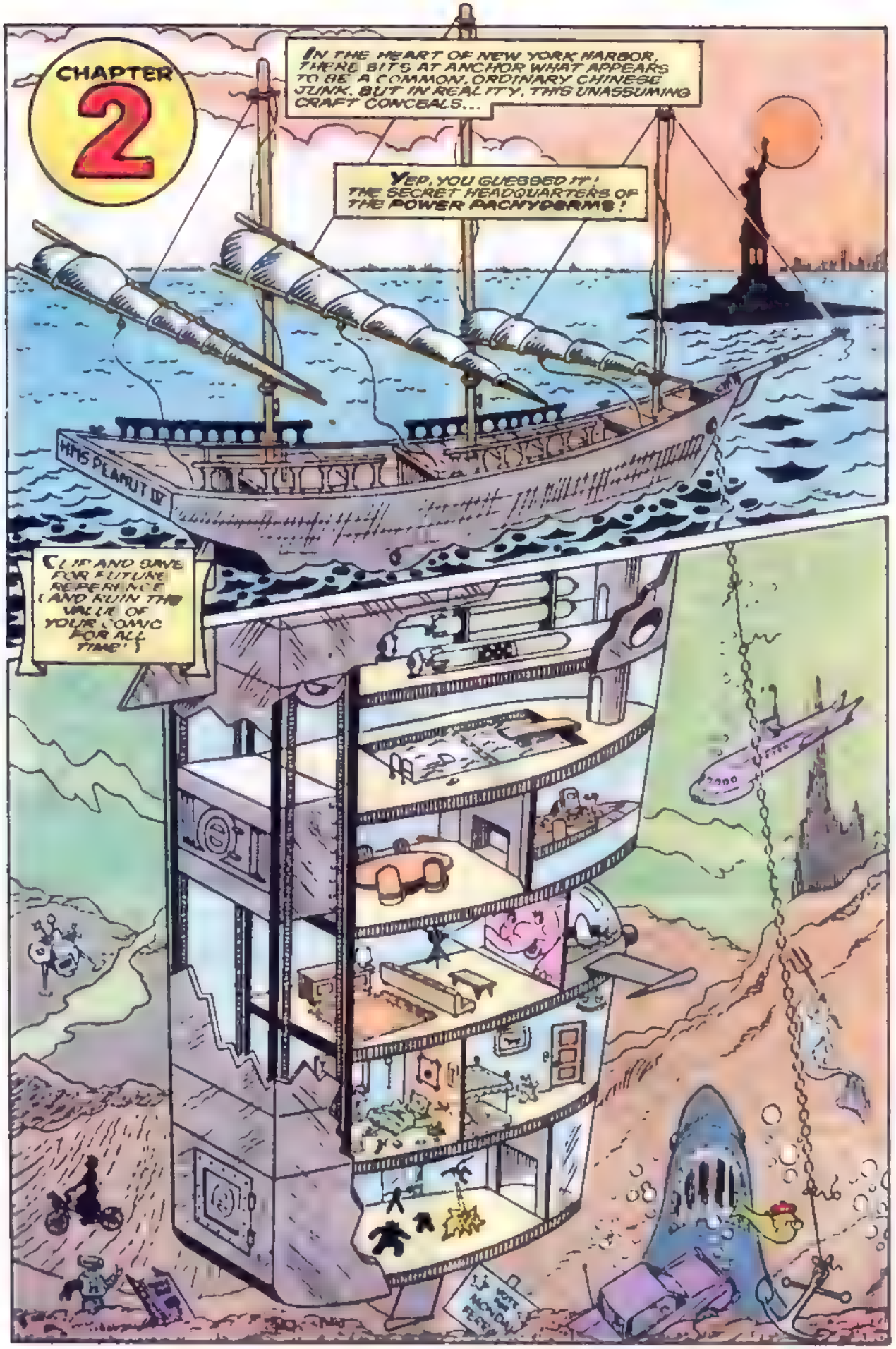
MASTERFUL ONES, I SEEK THE PURPOSE WHICH CANNOT BE SOUGHT! PLEASE, TEACH ME ALL THAT YOU KNOW!
THAT SHOULDN'T TAKE LONG
OBOY, A PIGEON! N'YUK-N'YUK!
BUTTON YER LIP, NUMBSKULL! THESE ARE THE FIRST CUSTOMERS WE'VE HAD SINCE THE KUNG-FU CRAZE DIED OUT!
YEAH, WE CAN'T LET 'EM GET AWAY!
LET'S SHOW 'EM WHAT WE CAN DO!
NOT A BAD IDEA!
WATCH CLOSELY, O SEEKERS OF THE TRUTH!
WE SHALL DEMONSTRATE THE LOST ART OF "WHY YU--!"
SELTZER
FONK
SPLUT
AND I DO MEAN YOU!
GNAFF! RAWF-RAWF!
AIIEEE!
SPREAD OUT!
WOOB-WOOB-WOOB!
YEEB-BEE-BEE-BEE-BEEB!
NOT BAD. BUT I ALREADY KNEW HOW TO FALL DOWN!
UH...THEN LEARN FROM THE KNOWING, MY SON. BY DOING THE OPPOSITE--AND NOT FALLING--YOU WILL ALWAYS STAND!
THAT MUST BE DEEP--I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND A WORD OF IT!


"DON'T FALL DOWN"? THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO YOUR ART?'
GOOD ADVICE, EH.. BUT NOT MUCH IN THE WAY OF A PHILOSOPHY'
ER.. AH.. THERE ARE DEPTHS TO THIS TEACHING THAT YOU WILL UNDERSTAND IN TIME. BUT FIRST
FIRST, YOU NEED A MISSION! YEAH, THAT'S IT!
YOU ARE NOT ALONE IN THIS WORLD.
THERE ARE TWO OTHERS MUCH LIKE YOU.
TELL US SOMETHIN' WE DON'T KNOW, BUB!
SHUT UP, RUMBO, I WANT TO HEAR MORE ABOUT THIS!
YOU MUST FIND THOSE TWO OTHERS
YOU MUST BAND TOGETHER TO OPPOSE EVIL WHEREVER YOU FIND IT'
AND YOU MUST STAY TOGETHER AS A GROUP FOR AT LEAST FIVE YEARS... THERE ARE SUBSTANTIAL PENALTIES FOR EARLY WITHDRAWAL.
BUT HOW YOU KNOW ABOUT THE OTHERS?
THE FOUR MASTERS SEE ALL... KNOW ALL'
BESIDES, IT'S RIGHT HERE IN THE- OUCH!
KNOCK IT OFF! WE DID THAT GAG TWO PAGES AGO!
RIGHT THIS WAY, FOLKS!
BOONK
ASSUMIN' WE GO ALONG WITH THIS, HOW RE WE S'POSED TO FIND THE OTHERS?
FOLLOW THOSE DIRECTIONS AND YA CAN'T GO WRONG! NOW BEAT IT!
ADDRESSES
TRUNKLOPS
MAMMOTH

"YA ASK ME, THIS 'MISSION' BUSINESS WAS STRICTLY SQUIRREL BAIT ' BUT ELLIE BELIEVED IN IT AND I HAD NOTHIN' BETTER TO DO.
"'SIDES, MOMO WAS RIGHT ON THE WAY!"
MAMMOTH, MAMMOTH, IT'S US!
UNSINKABLE II
SHH! DO NOT TROUBLE THE WATERS!
WE'VE COME TO ENLIST YOU IN OUR WAR AGAINST EVIL.
A WEIGHTY TASK... BUT I CANNOT HELP YOU.
I NO LONGER ACCEPT THE WAYS OF THE PHYSICAL WORLD I AM A SIMPLE FISHERMAN NOW SEEKING A HIGHER WISDOM EVEN AS THE WATERS SEEK THE SHORE.
WE CAN LEARN MUCH FROM THE WATERS OBSERVE HOW THEY RIPPLE.. MOVING EVER OUTWARD AS IF TO SIGNIFY--
--A BITE?! NO.. ONLY A SNAG!
SIGH!
IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME--!
"THEN A SCREWY THING HAPPENED. THERE WAS THIS BIG RELEASE OF ENERGY AND MAMMOTH TURNED TO SOLID STEEL!"
WH-WHERE DID HIS PANTS GO?
PROBABLY THE SAME PLACE MY TUSKS GO!


SPLASH
ANY MORE BRIGHT IDEAS?
ACME FISH
SAY, MAMMOTH, WHAT'TA YA GOT THERE?
I KNOW NOT BUT I SUSPECT IT IS A PLOT DEVICE.
HOTCHA! LIKE IT OR NOT, BUB, YOU'RE LIVIN' IN THE MATERIAL WORLD NOW!
WHAT WILL I DO?
THROW IN WITH US... WE'LL BE A GREAT TAX SHELTER!
"IT WAS EARLY ONE MORNING WHEN WE FINALLY FOUND OUR CAST MEMBER...
"...AND MAN DID HE LOOK LOUSY!"
YO, SNOOPY!
LEAVE ME ALONE, RUMBO!

NICE TO SEE YOU REMEMBER ME AFTER ALL THESE YEARS! HOW'D YA GET THAT ROCK STUFFED UP YER SNOOT?
IT'S A RUBY-QUARTZ PLUG, THE ONLY THING THAT WILL CONTAIN MY... NOSE-BEAM
YOUR WHAT?!
NOSE BEAM I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT, OKAY?
LISTEN TO ME
THE OL' GANG'S GETTIN' BACK TOGETHER--TO SAVE THE WORLD .. OR DESTROY IT, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST!
YOU'RE CRAZY! THERE'S NOTHING THAT COULD MAKE ME-E-E-E--!
HELLO, BOYS
MOM
TRUNKLOPS IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN I DO HOPE YOU'LL BE JOINING US
WHO? ME?
SURE!
YEAH!
YES!!!
UH HUH!
YOU BET!
RIGHT-E-O!


CHAPTER 2
IN THE HEART OF NEW YORK HARBOR, THERE SITS AT ANCHOR WHAT APPEARS TO BE A COMMON, ORDINARY CHINESE JUNK. BUT IN REALITY, THIS UNASSUMING CRAFT CONCEALS...
YEP, YOU GUESSED IT! THE SECRET HEADQUARTERS OF THE POWER PACHYDERMS!
HMS PEANUT IV
CLIP AND SAVE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE (AND RUIN THE VALUE OF YOUR COMIC FOR ALL TIME!)

HERE, IN THE AFOREMENTIONED PEANUT GALLERY, THE ELEPHANTINE QUARTET GATHERS TO HONE THEIR UNCANNY ABILITIES TO A RAZOR-KEEN EDGE...

...AND TO INJECT SOME SORELY NEEDED **ACTION** INTO OUR STORY!

YOU SURE YOU WANT TO GO THROUGH WITH THIS, RUMBOT

NO. BUT I HAVEN'T HAD A DECENT **CLOSEUP** SINCE PAGE 8.

FIGURE I OWE IT TO MY PUBLIC, EH?

ELECTRALUX IS HERE, TOO! **HONEST!** SHE'S JUST OFF-PANEL!

MAMMOTH, WATCH OUT!

BOING

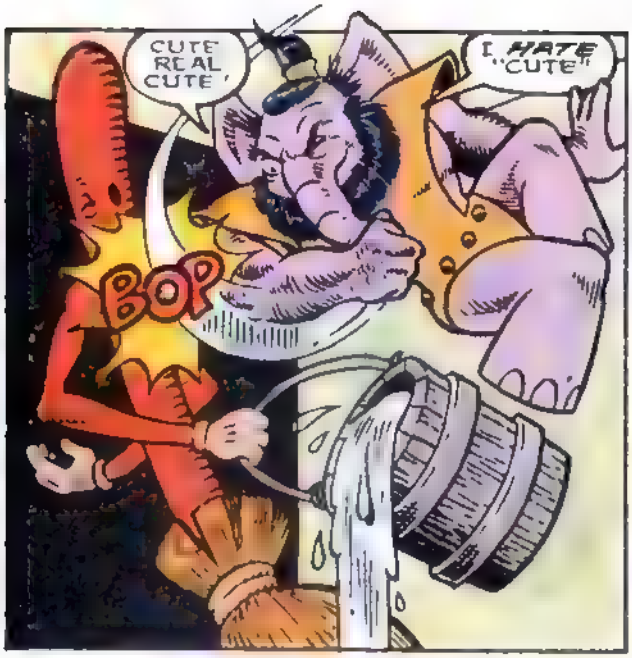
DIDN'T I SEE THIS ONCE IN A MOVIE?

TRUNKLOPS.. WHAT IS THIS?

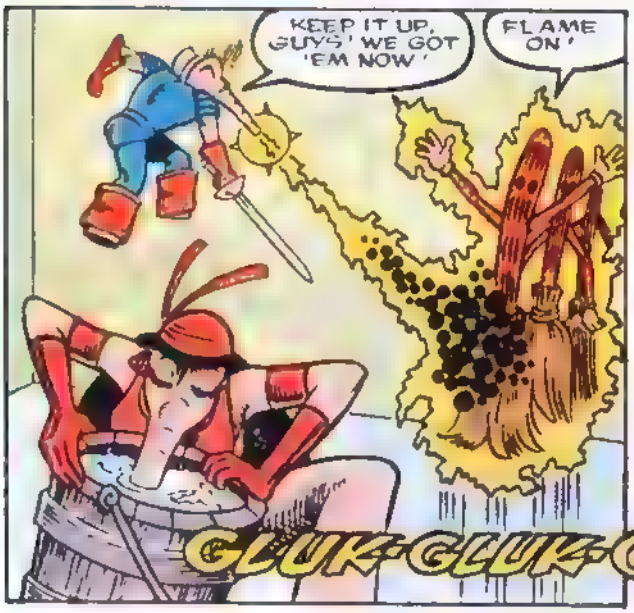
SEE! TOLD YA SHE WAS HERE!

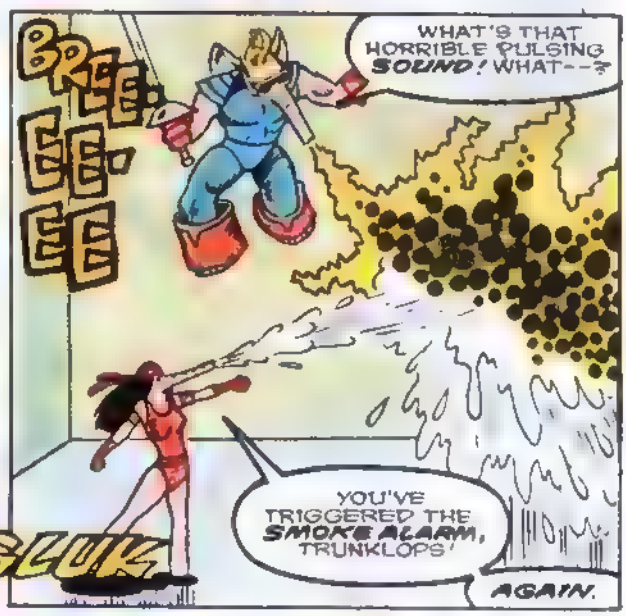
OUR GREATEST CHALLENGE! WE HAVE TO WIPE THEM OUT IN LESS THAN A PAGE — OR FACE COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT!

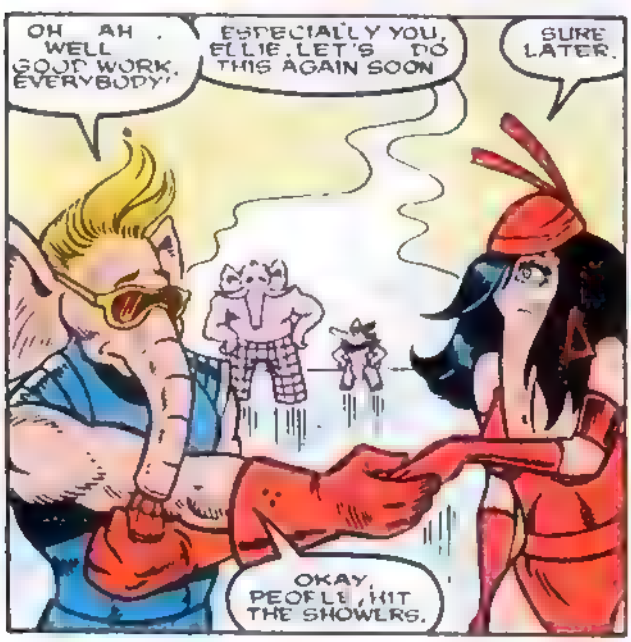
LET'S GO, TEAM!


CUTE REAL CUTE'
I HATE "CUTE"!
BOP

IT HAS BEEN TOO LONG SINCE I LAID HAND UPON A BROOM BUT THOUGH I HAVE BEEN AS A STRAW IN THE WIND STILL CAN I MAKE A CLEAN SWEEP OF THIS!
WHAT'S THAT S'POSED TO BE--ZEN HUMOR?

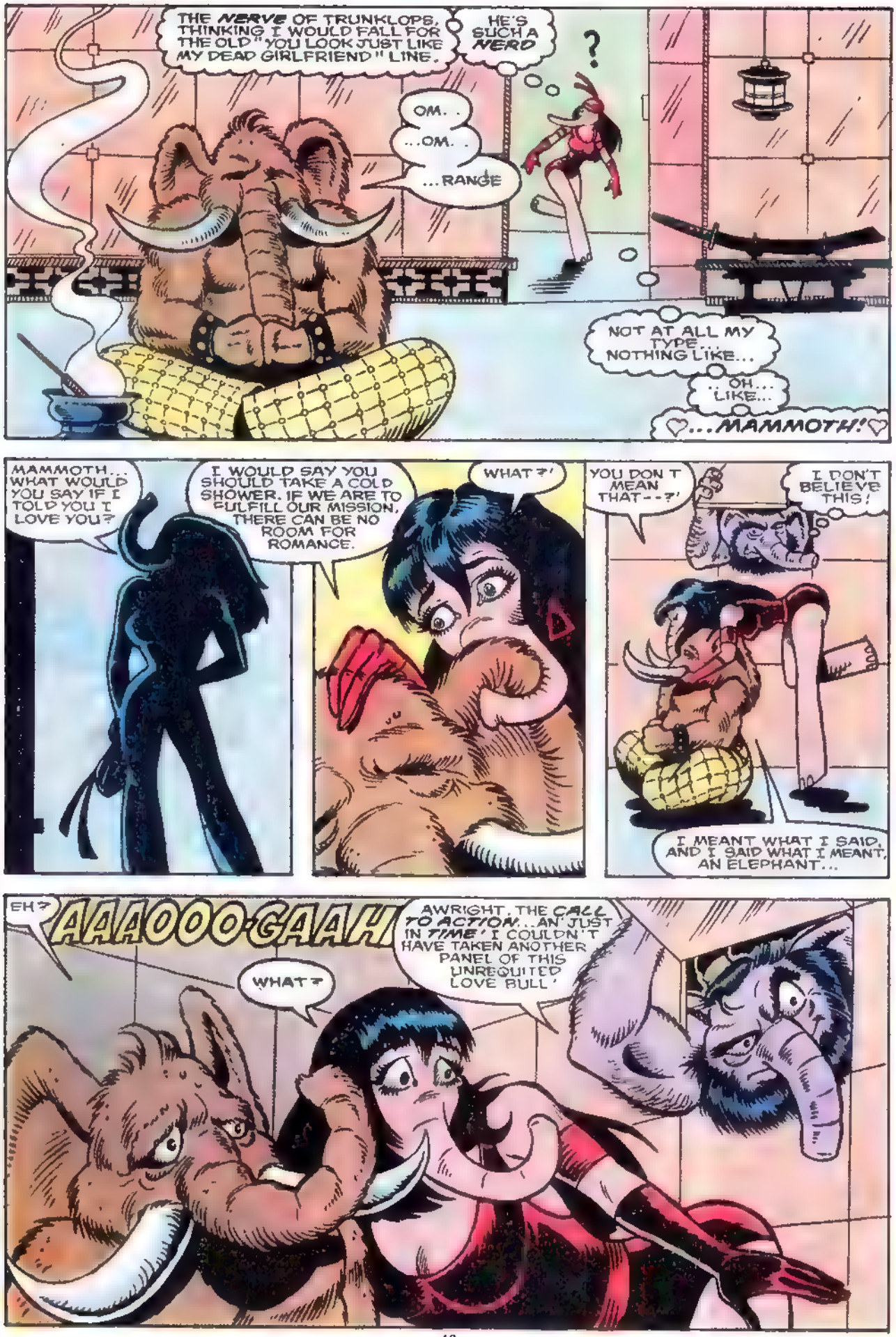

KEEP IT UP, GUYS! WE GOT 'EM NOW!
FLAME ON!
GLUK-GLUK-GLUK

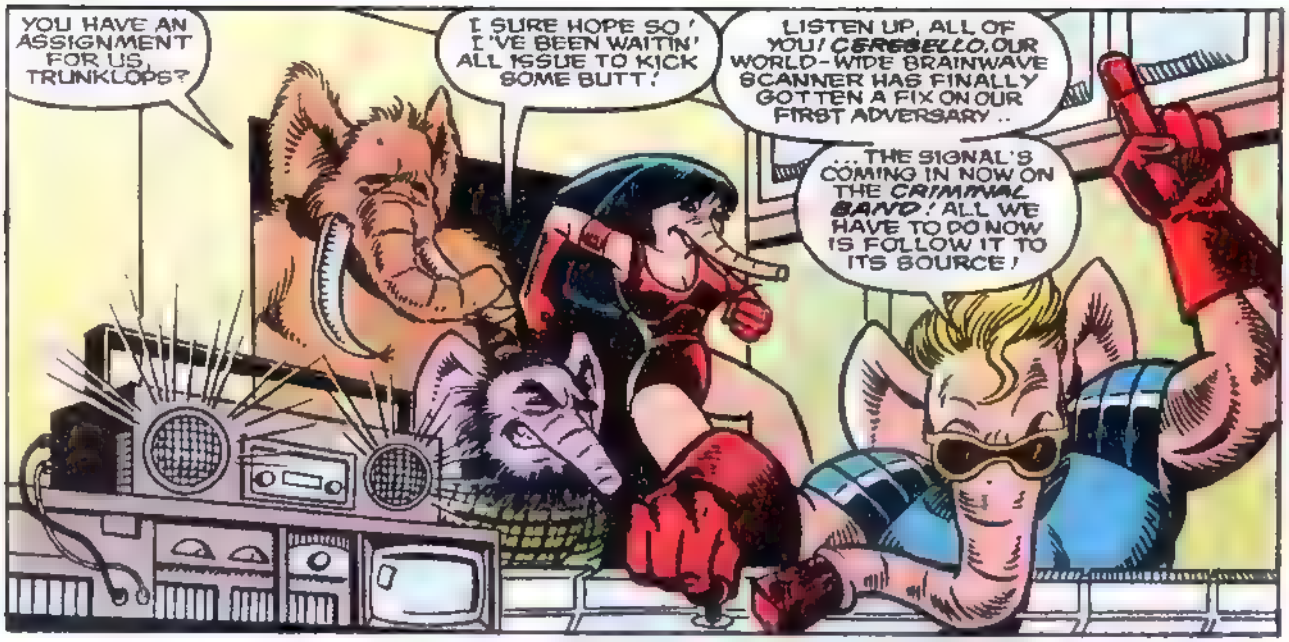

BRRLLEEEEEE
WHAT'S THAT HORRIBLE PULSING SOUND! WHAT--?
YOU'VE TRIGGERED THE SMOKE ALARM, TRUNKLOPS!
AGAIN.

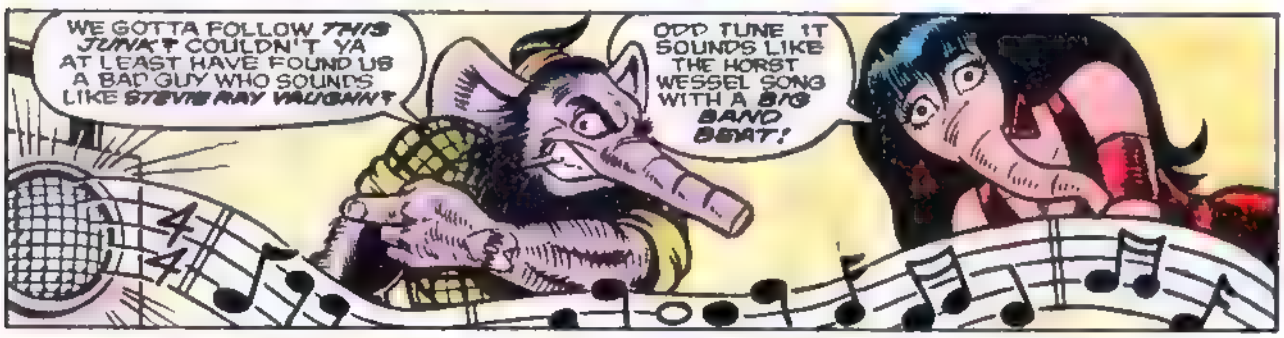

OH AH. WELL GOOD WORK, EVERYBODY!
ESPECIALLY YOU, ELLIE. LET'S DO THIS AGAIN SOON
SURE LATER.
OKAY, PEOPLE, HIT THE SHOWERS.

YOU KIDDIN', 'LOPS? I'VE ALREADY HAD MY SHOWER FER THIS MONTH!
HMMM ON THE OTHER HAND
EXIT

SHORTLY...
ELEKTRALUX, ARE YOU IN---? OOPS!
WHAT IS IT, TRUNKLOPS?
CLYDE BEATTY
CAN WE...UH... TALK?
WHAT'S THE MATTER? DID SOMETHING I SAY UPSET YOU?
IT ISN'T YOU, ELLIE... IT'S ME.
I'M VERY... ATTRACTED TO YOU. BUT FOR ALL THE WRONG REASONS.
YOU SEE I WAS IN LOVE WITH ANOTHER
BUT ONE NIGHT, WHILE WATCHING WILD KINGDOM SHE GOT A PEANUT CAUGHT IN HER THROAT
I TRIED THE HEIMLICH MANEUVER BUT IT WAS TOO LATE
HERE'S HER PICTURE.
I THOUGHT I'D NEVER FIND ANOTHER LIKE HER...UNTIL I SAW YOU.
OH?
YES SEE, YOU LOOK JUST LIKE HER!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! SHE DOES LOOK LIKE - WAIT A MINUTE!
THIS ISN'T A PICTURE, IT'S A POCKET MIRROR!
DO YOU THINK I WAS BORN YESTERDAY? HMPH!
SHE'S RIGHT, BUB! NOBODY WOULD BUY A STORY THAT LAME!
NICE TRY THOUGH, EH?
FOR A YUTZ!


THE NERVE OF TRUNKLOPS, THINKING I WOULD FALL FOR THE OLD "YOU LOOK JUST LIKE MY DEAD GIRLFRIEND" LINE.
HE'S SUCH A NERD
?
OM. . .
...OM. . .
...RANGE
NOT AT ALL MY TYPE... NOTHING LIKE...
...OH... LIKE...
♡...MAMMOTH!♡
MAMMOTH... WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IF I TOLD YOU I LOVE YOU?
I WOULD SAY YOU SHOULD TAKE A COLD SHOWER. IF WE ARE TO FULFILL OUR MISSION, THERE CAN BE NO ROOM FOR ROMANCE.
WHAT?'
YOU DON'T MEAN THAT--?'
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS!
I MEANT WHAT I SAID, AND I SAID WHAT I MEANT, AN ELEPHANT...
EH?
AAAOOO-GAAH
WHAT?
AWRIGHT, THE CALL TO ACTION...AN' JUST IN TIME! I COULDN'T HAVE TAKEN ANOTHER PANEL OF THIS UNREQUITED LOVE BULL'

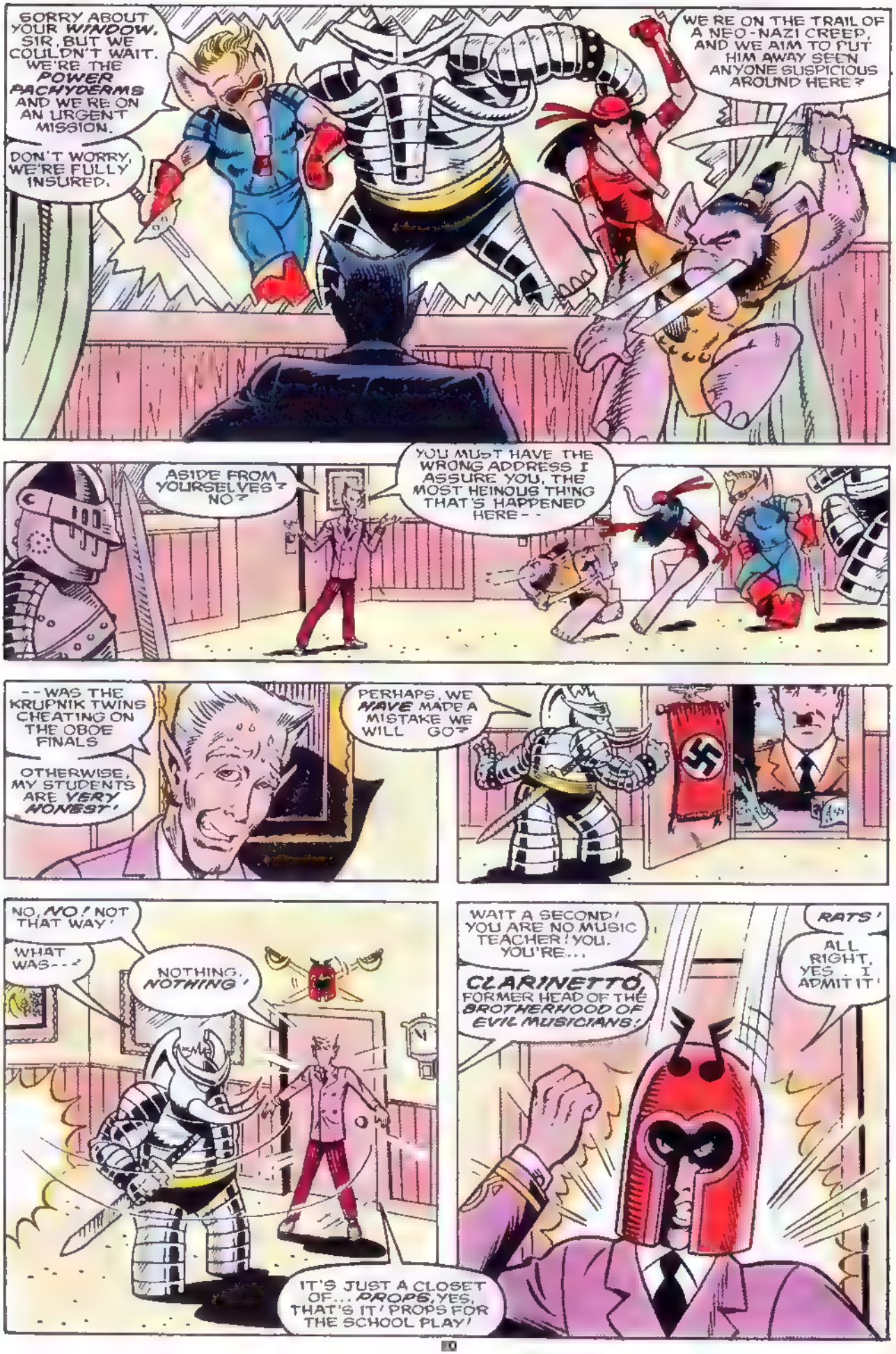

YOU HAVE AN ASSIGNMENT FOR US, TRUNKLOPS?
I SURE HOPE SO! I'VE BEEN WAITIN' ALL ISSUE TO KICK SOME BUTT!
LISTEN UP, ALL OF YOU! CERESELLO, OUR WORLD-WIDE BRAINWAVE SCANNER HAS FINALLY GOTTEN A FIX ON OUR FIRST ADVERSARY..
...THE SIGNAL'S COMING IN NOW ON THE CRIMINAL BAND! ALL WE HAVE TO DO NOW IS FOLLOW IT TO ITS SOURCE!


WE GOTTA FOLLOW THIS JUNK? COULDN'T YA AT LEAST HAVE FOUND US A BAD GUY WHO SOUNDS LIKE STEVIE RAY VAUGHN?
ODD TUNE IT SOUNDS LIKE THE HORST WESSEL SONG WITH A BIG BAND BEAT!

MILES AWAY FROM THE PACHYDERMS' HEADQUARTERS, WHERE THE PROPERTY VALUES ARE CONSIDERABLY HIGHER...
NEVER FEAR, MR AND MRS. FOONMAN.
MAGNETA'S CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

...I'M SURE WE'LL FIND A PLACE FOR YOUR LITTLE LEON IN OUR SCHOOL'
OH, MR. MAGNETA, HOW CAN WE EVER THANK YOU?
PAYING HIS TUITION IN ADVANCE IS THANKS ENOUGH, DEAR LADY!

ANOTHER DAY, ANOTHER $50,000. THIS PREP SCHOOL SCAM IS THE BEST CON I'VE COME UP WITH YET! A FEW MORE SUCKERS AND...
WHAT THE--?
SMASH


SORRY ABOUT YOUR WINDOW, SIR, BUT WE COULDN'T WAIT. WE'RE THE POWER PACHYDERMS AND WE'RE ON AN URGENT MISSION.
DON'T WORRY, WE'RE FULLY INSURED.
WE'RE ON THE TRAIL OF A NEO-NAZI CREEP, AND WE AIM TO PUT HIM AWAY! SEEN ANYONE SUSPICIOUS AROUND HERE?
ASIDE FROM YOURSELVES? NO?
YOU MUST HAVE THE WRONG ADDRESS I ASSURE YOU, THE MOST HEINOUS THING THAT'S HAPPENED HERE--
--WAS THE KRUPNIK TWINS CHEATING ON THE OBOE FINALS
OTHERWISE, MY STUDENTS ARE VERY HONEST!
PERHAPS, WE HAVE MADE A MISTAKE WE WILL GO?
NO, NO! NOT THAT WAY!
WHAT WAS--?
NOTHING, NOTHING!
IT'S JUST A CLOSET OF... PROPS. YES, THAT'S IT! PROPS FOR THE SCHOOL PLAY!
WAIT A SECOND! YOU ARE NO MUSIC TEACHER! YOU, YOU'RE...
CLARINETTO, FORMER HEAD OF THE BROTHERHOOD OF EVIL MUSICIANS!
RATS!
ALL RIGHT, YES, I ADMIT IT!

BUT IT'S TOO LATE TO STOP ME NOW!!
OVER THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, I'VE DUPED THE YOUTH OF THESE UNITED STATES INTO THINKING THAT I'M A SWELL GUY! YOU'LL NEVER CONVINCE THEM OTHERWISE!
IF YOU FIGHT ME, THEY'LL CONSIDER YOU THE VILLAINS!
THE YOUTH OF AMERICA, HUH? THAT'S A PRETTY BIG AUDIENCE!
SO WHAT? I'M CANADIAN... I SAY WE WASTE 'IM!
PERHAPS THIS WILL DISSUADE YOU!
ARROO! RUMBO... THE SOUND FROM THAT PITCH PIPE!
YEAH, HE'S NOT JUST AN EVIL MUSICIAN...
WHUMP!
POOF!
...HE'S A BAD MUSICIAN!
AFTER HIM!
YOU'LL NEVER CATCH ME, YOU ELEPHANTINE DOLTS!
I HAVE--
--PREPARED FOR--
--EVERY EVENTUALITY!
ESCAPE CHUTE
TOODLE-OO!
ELECTRALUX, WAIT! THAT COULD BE A TRAP!
WE HAVE TO TAKE THAT CHANCE! COME ON!
ESCAPE CHUTE BY ROMCO TM
SHE'S REAL GOOD AT TAKIN' CHANCES FOR THE REST O' US!

PTANG
KRUNCH
SLAMM
THUD
OHH! I... HURT.
BLACK AS PITCH IN HERE. WHEREVER HERE IS.
NO KIDDING!
I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS!
WHAT YOU GOT IS A TALENT FOR OLD CLICHES, 'LOPS'
GET OFFA MY BACK, MAMMOTH!
SORRY, RUMBO.
THAT'S BETTER.
SNIKT
NOW, EVERYBODY STICK CLOSE. FIRST THING WE GOTTA DO IS FIND A LIGHT SWITCH!
ALLOW ME!
CLICK
HEY!
WOOOOOOOOOO
WHAT IDIOT TURNED ON THE LIGHTS?
AND WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT TERRIBLE MUSIC?
YOU CUT ME TO THE QUICK, TRUNKLOPS!
JUST FOR THAT THERE'LL BE NO DANE CANDY FOR YOU!
LISSEN, BUB, IT DON'T MATTER HOW BADLY YOU PLAY, WE'RE STILL GONNA STOMP YER BUTT!
UH, YEAH, WHAT HE SAID!
HA! DID YOU THINK I WOULD FACE YOU ALONE?
STUDENTS... SHOW YOURSELVES.

THESE ARE YOUR STUDENTS?
OH, NO!
IT... CAN'T BE!
I SHOULDA KNOWN!
FOR MONTHS, CLARINETTO HAS TRAINED THESE CELEBRITY IMPERSONATORS IN SECRET, MOLDING THEIR UNCANNY MUSICAL ABILITIES INTO A FORCE UNHEARD OF SINCE THE LAST "LIVE AID" CONCERT. TOGETHER, THEY ARE...
THE NEW MUSICIANS!
ALL RIGHT, LET'S GET CRAZY!
LET'S PLAY ROUGH!
YOU LOOK MORE LIKE AN OLD MUSICIAN TO ME!
LOOK OUT, BOY TOY... I GOT YOUR NOSE!
AW DOE... DOT DAT!
BRU-U-U-U-CE!
THAT CHORD ALWAYS MESMERIZES 'EM!
EXCELLENT, STUDENTS! YOU'LL ALL GET A'S FOR THIS EXERCISE!

DON'T PASTE UP YOUR GOLD STAR YET, BUB! IT'LL TAKE MORE'N A FEW LOW BLOWS TO STOP YERS TRULY!
MAMMOTH, SNAP OUT OF IT!
SNIK
PING
THESE MUSICIANS AREN'T THE GENUINE ARTICLE! THEY'RE FAKES!
WHAT?! WHY YOU--!
WHO'S THE BOSS NOW?
UNGH! OH, NO, YOU DON'T! COME BACK HERE!
DOE, DON'T PULL! IF YOU LOOSEN BY DOSE PLUG, YOU'LL-
ZOOTCH!
--BE SORRY!
EEEKK!

NOW MY TRUE COLOR IS SHINING THROUGH -- YELLOW!

LEMME OUTTA HERE!

ELLIE - GET CLARINETTO!

AND SOMEBODY HELP ME FIND MY NOSE PLUG!

RADIOACT

I KNEW I SHOULD'VE RECRUITED A MARCHING BAND!

YOU WON'T STOP ME WITH THAT, CLARINETTO! I'M TONE DEAF!

...THE ARTISTS MUST CONCOCT SOME LUDICROUS ESCAPE FOR ME. LIKE, SAY, HAVING THE NORMALLY NIMBLE ELECTRALUX GET TANGLED UP IN A GUITAR CORD AND TRIP INTO A CONVENIENTLY PLACED BARREL OF RADIOACTIVE MAKEUP!

WHOOOPS!

DRAT! ONLY ONE HOPE NOW

HEH HEH-HEH! THANKS, GUYS!

RADIC AKE

STUCK AT THE BOTTOM OF THE BARREL, ELECTRALUX STRUGGLES TO BREAK FREE, BUT . SHE IS NOT ALONE!

SNAP CRACKLE GLOP

RADIOACTIVE MAKE

AS THE IRRADIATED MAKEUP SEEPS INTO HER PORES, ANOTHER BEING...A NEW BEING ... ALSO CRIES OUT FOR FREEDOM!

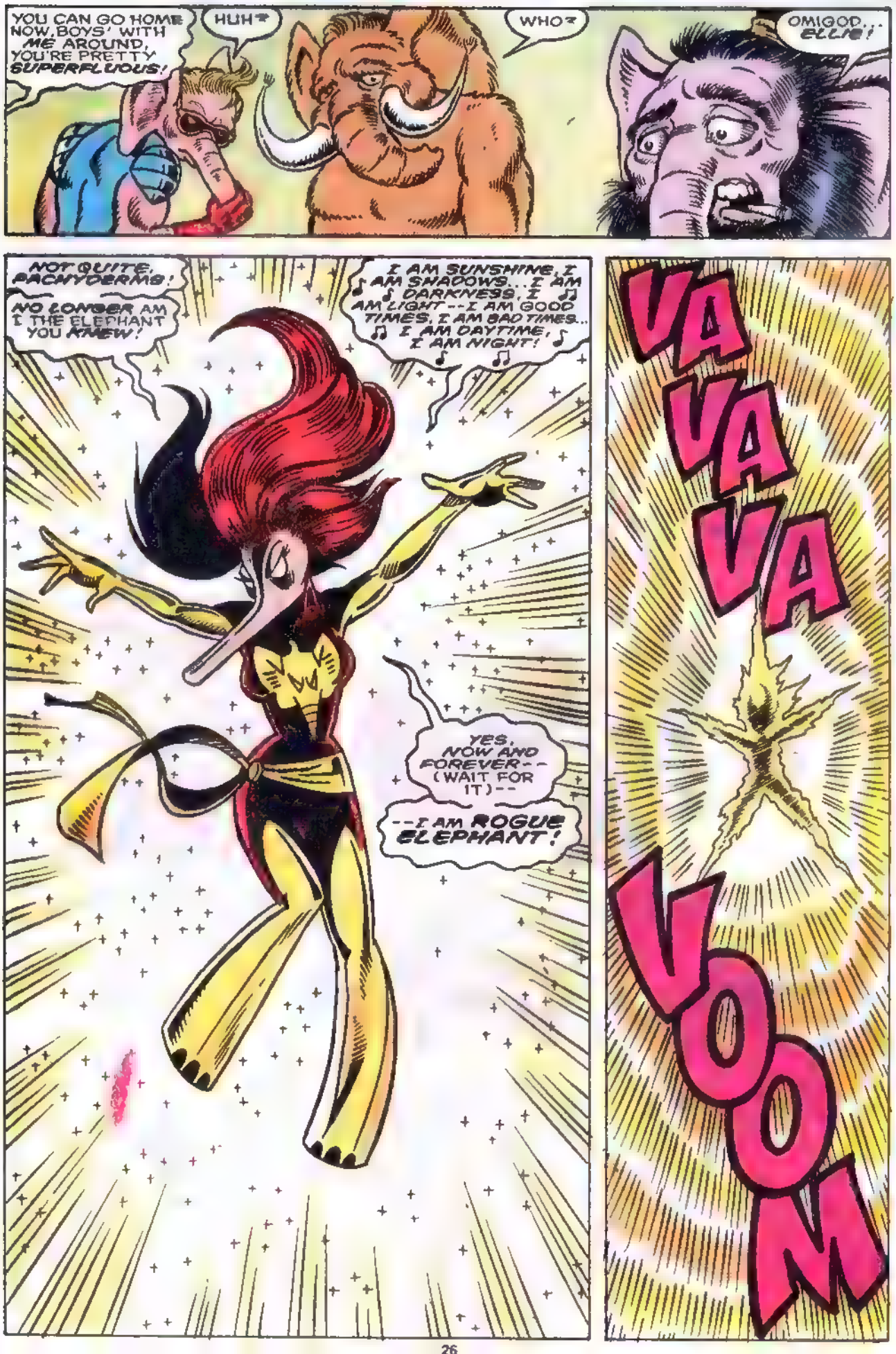
TOGETHER AS ONE THEY CRY, AND THAT CRY IS LIKE A SONG.

POKATA POKATA FIZZZ

RADIOACTIVE MAKE

.. A SONG WHICH WILL NOT BE DENIED A SONG WHICH WILL BE HEARD!

WHETHER WE LIKE IT OR NOT!


YOU CAN GO HOME NOW, BOYS' WITH ME AROUND, YOU'RE PRETTY SUPERFLUOUS!
HUH?
WHO?
OMIGOD... ELLIE!
NOT QUITE, PACHYDERMS!
NO LONGER AM I THE ELEPHANT YOU KNEW!
I AM SUNSHINE, I AM SHADOWS... I AM DARKNESS, I AM LIGHT--I AM GOOD TIMES, I AM BAD TIMES... I AM DAYTIME, I AM NIGHT!
YES, NOW AND FOREVER-- (WAIT FOR IT)--
--I AM ROGUE ELEPHANT!
VA VA VOOM

WELL... SHE CERTAINLY BROUGHT DOWN THE HOUSE.

GROAN! I HATE OLD GAGS LIKE THAT!

I DON'T SUPPOSE EITHER O' YOU WOULD CARE TO BREAK YER HEROIC POSES LONG ENOUGH TO GIVE ME A HAND?

♪ I AM STRONG... I AM INVINCIBLE... ♪

ELLIE, ARE YOU OKAY?

I DON'T BELIEVE IT! YOU FLATTENED CLARINETTO AND HIS NEW MUSICIANS SINGLE-HANDEDLY.

IF YOU THOUGHT *THAT* WAS GOOD, WAIT'LL YOU HEAR ME HIT A HIGH--

EEEEEE

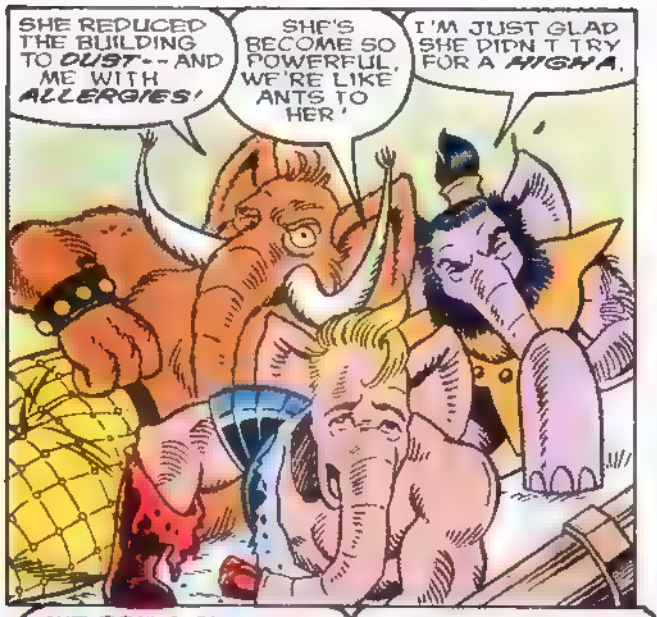
EEEEEE

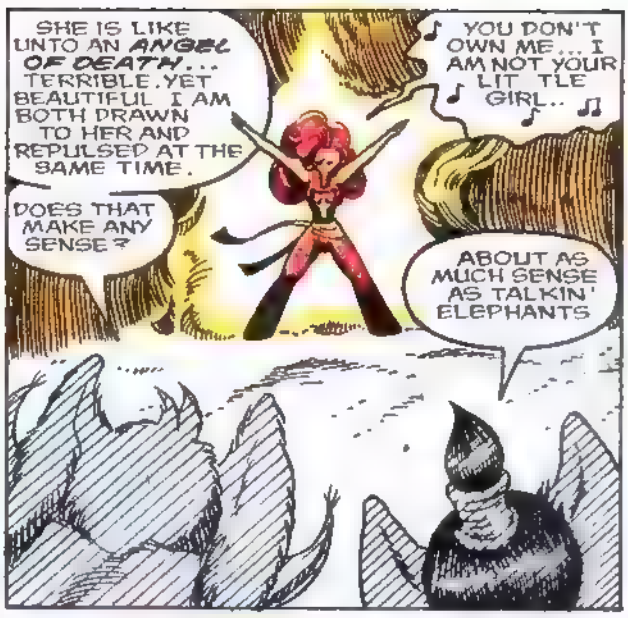
EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE

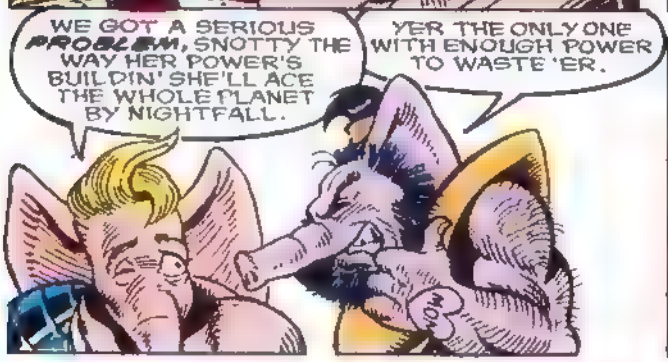
I ♥ NY

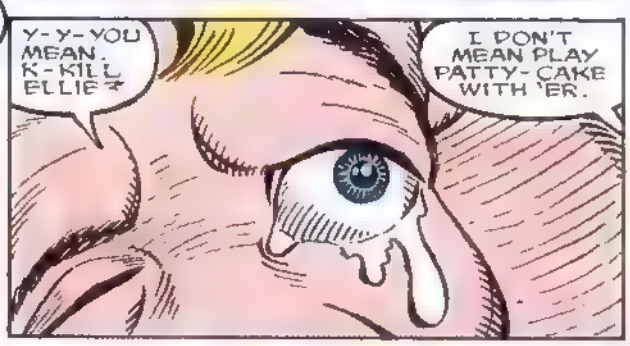
I ♥ UK

"

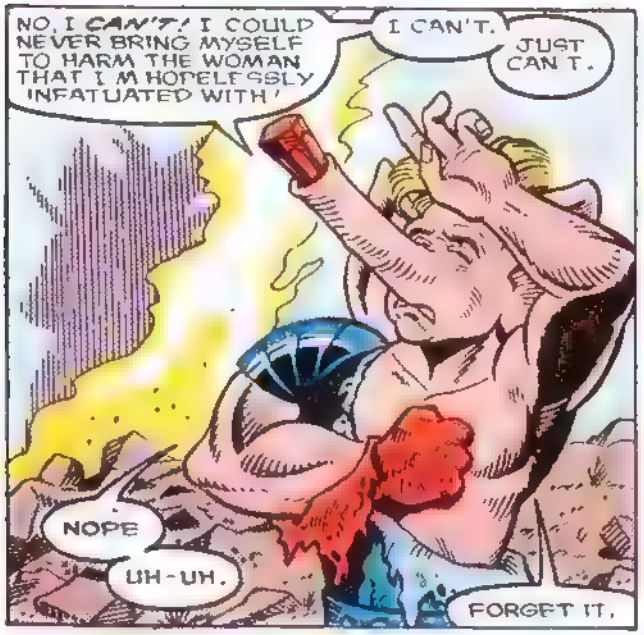

SHE REDUCED THE BUILDING TO DUST--AND ME WITH ALLERGIES!
SHE'S BECOME SO POWERFUL, WE'RE LIKE ANTS TO HER!
I'M JUST GLAD SHE DIDN'T TRY FOR A HIGH A.

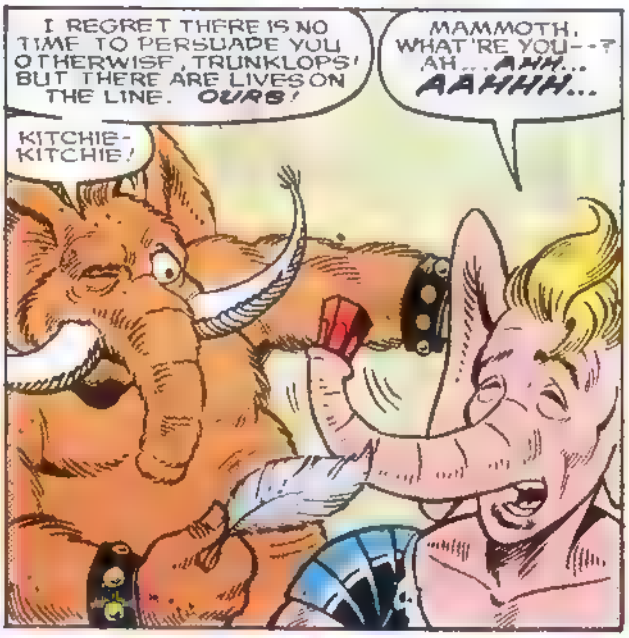

SHE IS LIKE UNTO AN ANGEL OF DEATH... TERRIBLE, YET BEAUTIFUL. I AM BOTH DRAWN TO HER AND REPULSED AT THE SAME TIME.
DOES THAT MAKE ANY SENSE?
♪ YOU DON'T OWN ME... I AM NOT YOUR LIT TLE GIRL.. ♪
ABOUT AS MUCH SENSE AS TALKIN' ELEPHANTS


WE GOT A SERIOUS PROBLEM, SNOTTY THE WAY HER POWER'S BUILDIN' SHE'LL ACE THE WHOLE PLANET BY NIGHTFALL.
YER THE ONLY ONE WITH ENOUGH POWER TO WASTE 'ER.


Y-Y-YOU MEAN, K-KILL ELLIE?
I DON'T MEAN PLAY PATTY-CAKE WITH 'ER.

NO...NOT THAT! NOT ELLIE! I CAN'T!
LOOK, WHATEVER SHE IS, SHE AIN'T ELLIE ANY MORE! YA GOTTA DO IT!
♪ YOU CAN LOOK, BUT YOU D ♪ BETTER NOT TOUCH.. ♪


NO, I CAN'T! I COULD NEVER BRING MYSELF TO HARM THE WOMAN THAT I'M HOPELESSLY INFATUATED WITH!
I CAN'T.
JUST CAN'T.
NOPE
UH-UH.
FORGET IT.


I REGRET THERE IS NO TIME TO PERSUADE YOU OTHERWISE, TRUNKLOPS! BUT THERE ARE LIVES ON THE LINE. OURS!
MAMMOTH, WHAT'RE YOU--? AH... AHH... AAHHH...
KITCHIE-KITCHIE!

CHOOO!

BABY-BABY-BABEE... OW!

OOO-WEE-OOO-WHOA!

DID IT WORK?

I THINK SO. TRUNKLOPS' NOSE-BEAM BLEW ALL THE MAKE-UP OFFA HER.

ELLIE... OH, ELLIE!

ELECTRALUX... YOU OKAY, BABE! SAY SOMETHIN'... ANYTHIN'!

IS...IS...

WHAT?

...IS THE MISSION ACCOMPLISHED?

AH, SHE IS INDEED HER OLD SELF AGAIN!

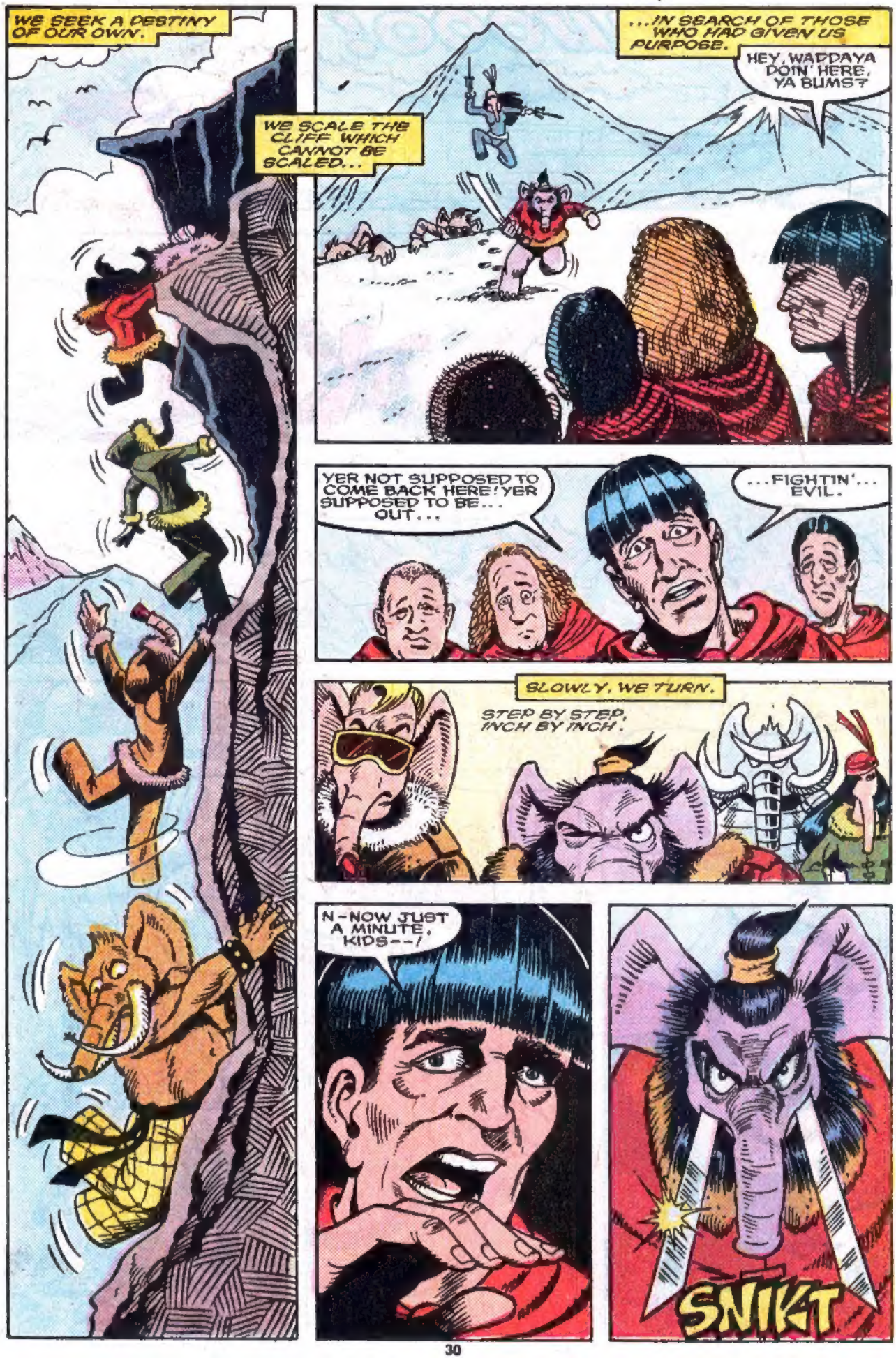
MISSION'S ALL OVER, ELLIE. THE TEAM IS A BIG *SUCCESS!*

IS IT, TRUNKLOPS?

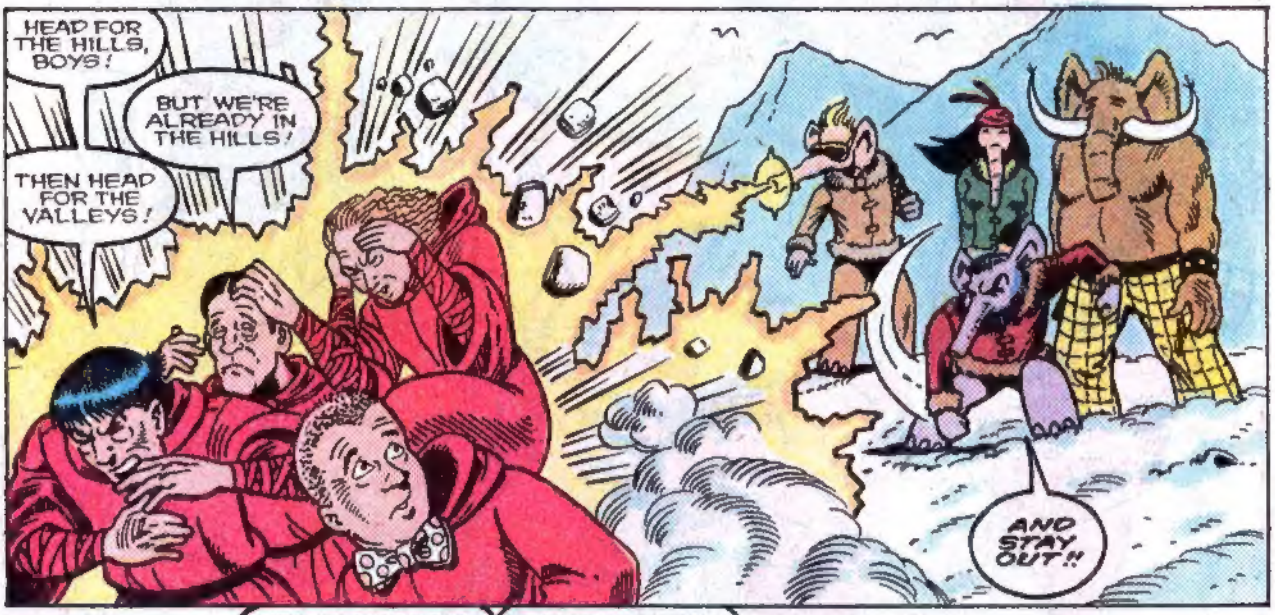
IT IS TRUE WE HAVE BEATEN OUR OPPONENTS, BUT ONLY AT CONSIDERABLE WEAR AND TEAR TO *OURSELVES.*

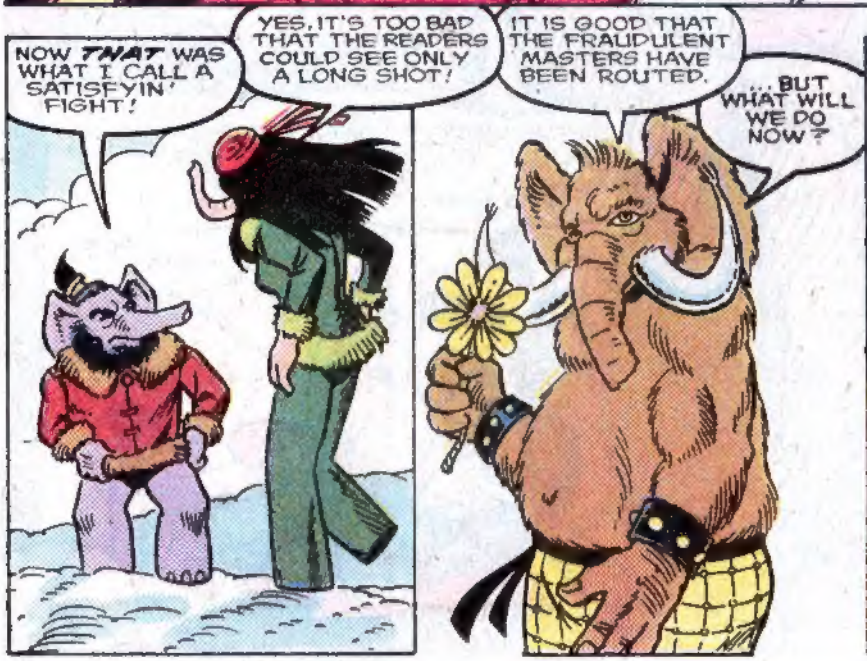
THE BIG GUY'S GOT A POINT...WE COULDA GOTTEN *KILLED.*

HEY, YOU'RE *RIGHT!* WHOSE BRIGHT IDEA WAS THIS, ANYWAY?

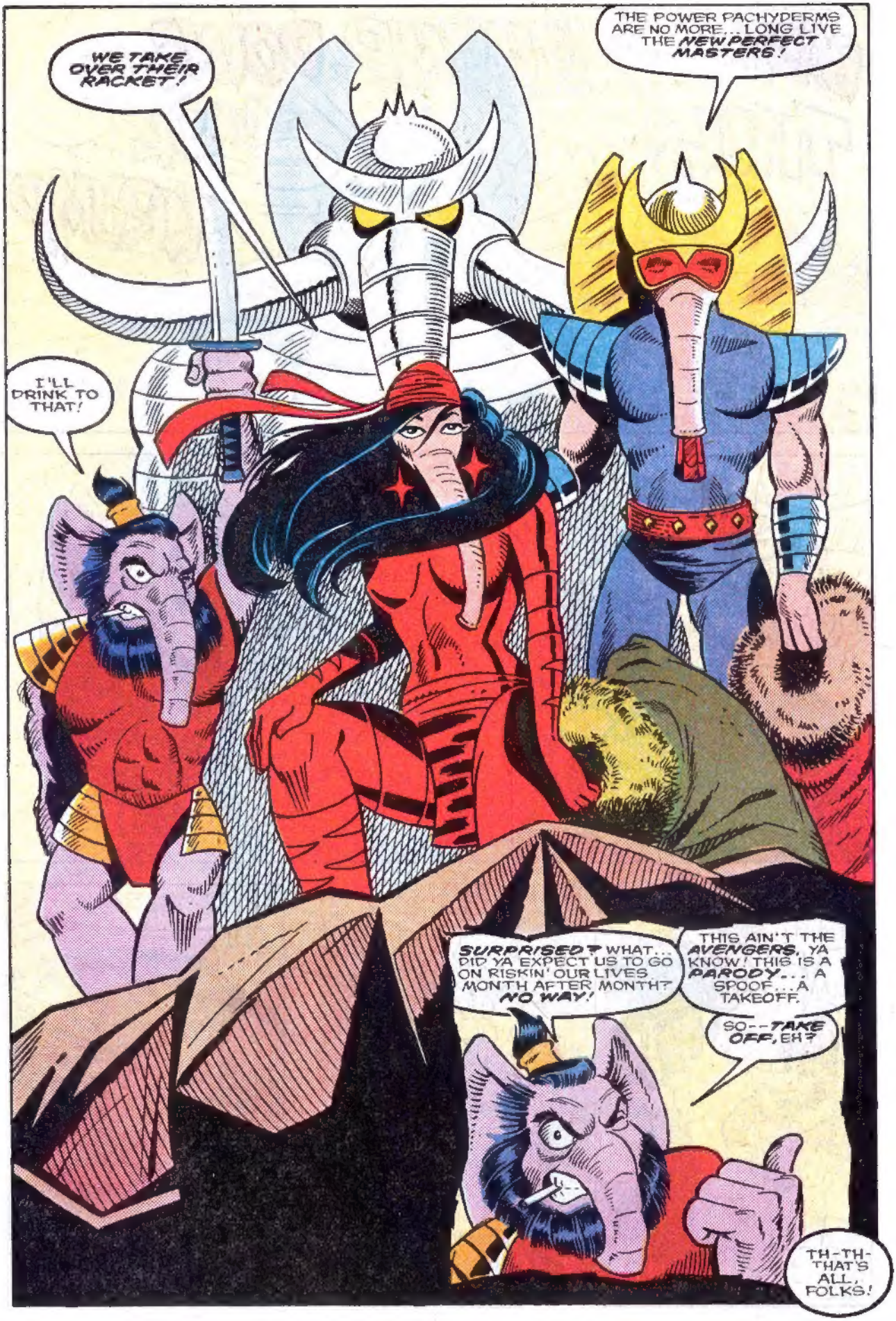

WE SEEK A DESTINY OF OUR OWN.
WE SCALE THE CLIFF WHICH CANNOT BE SCALED...
...IN SEARCH OF THOSE WHO HAD GIVEN US PURPOSE.
HEY, WADDAYA DOIN' HERE, YA BUMS?
YER NOT SUPPOSED TO COME BACK HERE! YER SUPPOSED TO BE... OUT...
...FIGHTIN'... EVIL.
SLOWLY, WE TURN.
STEP BY STEP, INCH BY INCH.
N-NOW JUST A MINUTE, KIDS--!
SNIKT

BASH!
N'YAHH!
WHUMP
DOING
WE GIVE UP!
KING'S X!
THUD
YEEOWTCH!
OY!
STOP!
WOK
KRUMP
WOO-OOB-OOB-OOB!


HEAD FOR THE HILLS, BOYS!
BUT WE'RE ALREADY IN THE HILLS!
THEN HEAD FOR THE VALLEYS!
AND STAY OUT!!


NOW THAT WAS WHAT I CALL A SATISFYIN' FIGHT!
YES, IT'S TOO BAD THAT THE READERS COULD SEE ONLY A LONG SHOT!
IT IS GOOD THAT THE FRAUDULENT MASTERS HAVE BEEN ROUTED.
...BUT WHAT WILL WE DO NOW?

WHY, MAMMOTH... ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?


WE TAKE OVER THEIR RACKET!
THE POWER PACHYDERMS ARE NO MORE... LONG LIVE THE NEW PERFECT MASTERS!
I'LL DRINK TO THAT!
SURPRISED? WHAT... DID YA EXPECT US TO GO ON RISKIN' OUR LIVES MONTH AFTER MONTH? NO WAY!
THIS AIN'T THE AVENGERS, YA KNOW! THIS IS A PARODY... A SPOOF... A TAKEOFF.
SO--TAKE OFF, EH?
TH-TH-THAT'S ALL, FOLKS!